

# HEARTLAND ENGINEER



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SEPTEMBER 2007



**SAFETY  
FIRST**  
year around goal!



A CENTURY OF VISION, ACHIEVEMENT & SERVICE



## SAFETY FIRST YEAR AROUND GOAL

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ON THE COVER: Bunnie Watkins presents Perry Lake visitor with water safety badge. Photo by: Mike Watkins

## What Every Employee Should Know...

"It is because of their loyalty, selfless service, courage, and sense of duty that the Corps is able to meet the demands of an operational tempo that is enormous and growing by the day."

Lieutenant General R. L. Van Antwerp  
Chief of Engineers



COL Roger A. Wilson, Jr.

It is important for you to know that the Chief of Engineers not only appreciates what you do each and every day, but that he understands the increasing demands being placed on Corps districts and their people. In the newest edition of *Serving the Armed Forces and the Nation*, Lieutenant General Van Antwerp praises your efforts, and subtly acknowledges that challenges lie ahead.

Each of you clearly understand these challenges as the Nation remains at war, the Army continues to grow, there are increasing demands for energy and water, our national infrastructure ages, climate change ravages the planet, and greater emphasis is placed on our environmental and fiscal resources. Meeting these challenges will be difficult and will test us all, but I have no doubt that we are up for it.

As the Chief alluded to in his statement above, this enthusiasm and optimism stems from a simple, yet powerful, set of corporate values that drive our culture and behavior. As we move into the new fiscal year, perhaps the largest overall program the Kansas City District has seen in its 100-years of existence, I ask that you reaffirm your commitment to Army Values.

**Loyalty.** Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. constitution, the Army, and other soldiers and employees. Be loyal to the nation and its heritage.

**Duty.** Fulfill your obligations. Accept responsibility for your own actions and those entrusted to your care. Find opportunities to improve oneself for the good of the group.

**Respect.** Rely upon the golden rule. How we consider others reflects upon each of us, both personally and as a professional organization.

**Selfless Service.** Put the welfare of the nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own. Selfless service leads to organizational teamwork, discipline, self-control and faith in the system.

**Honor.** Walk the walk and live up to all the Army values. Demonstrate through word and deed that you are honorable, trustworthy, and of character.

**Integrity.** Do what is right, legally and morally, even when no one is looking. Listen to your inner voice, and bring others along with you.

**Personal Courage.** Don't succumb to peer pressure, face adversity through physical and moral courage, and provide good judgment at the right point in time.

Through this reaffirmation, we will continue to hold our heads high as we perform our Federal engineering functions and services. Of the same fabric, with common values that guide thinking, decisions, and action in the absence of guidance, we will uphold our image, garner trust and confidence, while we meet the demands of our Nation and Army.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Wilson".



1968-1977

The seventh decade of the

# Kansas City District

## World Events

### 1968

Lt. Gen. William F. Cassidy, Chief of Engineers, says "Perhaps our greatest deficiency in the past has been our inability to identify and measure the impacts water resources developments have on social and environmental values, and on local and regional economies."

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act creates a national system of undeveloped rivers.

Flood Control Act authorizes two multiple-purpose lakes, Longview and Blue Springs, and channel modification on the Little Blue River Basin in Jackson County, Mo.

### 1969

Perry Lake in Kansas and Stockton Lake in Missouri are placed in operation, although work continues until 1973.

Kansas City District completes the Rathbun dam and reservoir on the Chariton River in Iowa.

"The complexity of the water resources management field has been growing at a rapid pace, with new concepts and interests appearing in a continuing stream. We are facing new problems, as well as new opportunities," Gen. Cassidy said.

### 1970

The authorized Kaysinger Bluff Dam and Reservoir, Osage River basin, Mo., is officially renamed by Congress to the Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir.

Pres. Richard M. Nixon signs the National Environmental Policy Act and the Corps responds with Environmental Guidelines for the Civil Works Program.

Congress passes an Omnibus Water Resources Act which includes Title I: The River and Harbor Act and Title II: the Flood Control Act.

Flood Control Act authorizes four multiple-purpose lakes to be constructed in the upper Blue River basin, three in Kansas and one in Missouri.

Kansas City District is no longer responsible for military design and construction work.

### 1971

Corps and EPA agree on division of responsibilities to provide state and local governments' expertise to implement congressionally mandated pollution abatement programs.

### 1972

Congress passes Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments (PL 92-500, the "Clean Water Act").

Melvorn Lake is placed in operation.

Secretary of the Army approves contracts for local cooperation for water supply storage and recreation developments at Smithville Lake.

Clinton dam and reservoir, located at Lawrence, Kansas, authorized in 1962 and appropriations made in 1971, is placed in active construction status by the District.

Levees and channel improvement on the Little Chariton River, at its mouth upstream on the Missouri River from Glasgow, Mo., are essentially completed.

The Environmental Defense Fund files suit against the Kansas City District alleging violations of NEPA at Harry S. Truman Dam and Reservoir.

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# 100 YEARS OF HISTORY

## Policy and Planning Challenges

Between the late 1960s and the 1970s, the Kansas City District military and civil works missions incurred setbacks. The Vietnam War and inflation forced legislators to impose fiscal austerity on civil works projects. The District's military mission was slashed when the Department of Defense reorganized.

As the Kansas City District completed flood control projects and reduced the threat of catastrophic flooding, the issues of water resource development became more complex.

The Corps of Engineers civil works program was barraged by new legislation and blistering criticism. No longer would the engineers proceed with projects having support only of influential politicians or local elites. The outdoor editor of the Kansas City Star charged that the District's lake supporters were the "frontmen" lobbying for the Corps of Engineers. "One urges on the other, and it's an unholy alliance that eats up billions of dollars of federal money."

The Bureau of the Budget criticized the Corps of Engineers for a lack of comprehensive planning and its reliance on engineering feasibility to produce benefits and costs. The Corps of Engineers' prestige and credibility were at stake.

Water resource law mandated the Corps of Engineers to bring a spectrum of viewpoints into an expanded planning process requiring environmental, social, and macroeconomic considerations.

Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Frederick Clarke encouraged "as broad public and private participation as practical in defining environmental objectives and in eliciting viewpoints of what the public wants and expects as well as what it is projected to need..."

[Editors comment: Although these statements might seem obvious with decades of hindsight, it is important to remember that the very concept of public involvement was new to federal organizations until the early 1970s. Water projects were often driven by congressional advocates and local promoters and had minimal public involvement during planning.]

Interdisciplinary planning would guide future water projects. The Corps was slow to open the planning process and to add social scientists to its district staffs. Civil engineers concerned with building a technically sound project doubted the value of social science in the engineering planning process.

With their emphasis on values and alternatives to traditional engineering solutions, social scientists could obstruct and increase the cost, or even scuttle water projects. With budget constraints, inflation, and its heavy construction workload, the Kansas City District resisted adding to the staff. In short, the engineering division handled planning and they did not consider it on par with engineering and construction.

The military leaders in USACE were prepared to accede to the federal momentum for reform of water resources planning. The Corps elected to diversify and strengthen the planning staff and pull it out of the engineering organization. The Kansas City District established a planning division, placed it on the organizational level with the engineering division and staffed it with young professionals trained in social science disciplines.

The Kansas City District was heavy loaded with new civil works planning issues that challenged the realigned planning and engineering staffs. Its Truman project is a textbook illustration of this challenge.

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# Those Dam Inspectors

By Jennie Wilson

Every year the Corps inspects all the dams in our district usually in the spring says, Emily Nziramasanga inspection coordinator for the Kansas City District. Nziramasanga's role as inspection coordinator entails assembling the team, coordinating with the lake project office and preparing the pre-inspection packet and assembling the final Periodic Inspection Report (PIR). Every five years the Corps conducts a comprehensive periodic inspection involving a larger team and generally takes two days to complete. At a ten year inspection there is a larger crew and the inspection takes several days to complete. This involves dewatering the distilling basin so crew members can put on their waders and get down to the basin floor. The dam inspection team includes a plethora of highly specialized technical experts that are needed to conduct a structural, mechanical, and geological inspection of the dams' internal and external structures. The drill crew was required at Perry to clean out the drains located in the floor of the distilling basin, a common practice that can only be accomplished after a dewatering of the basin.

The dewatering at Perry was a "monumental task compared to other lakes," said Nziramasanga. They

were required to build an earthen "coffer" dam just downstream of the distilling basin and pump out all the water to the other side the coffer dam. Darrell Brown set up the pumps while lake operators and rangers watched the pumps around the clock until the basin was empty. During the dewatering members of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife captured, moved, and documented the types of fish in the basin. "The fish catch was very long and tedious," said Nziramasanga.

Geologists on the team check for erosion, riprap damage, seepage and overall stability of the embankment. They checked the toe of the dam where piezometers and inclinometers that have been strategically placed along the dams slope. This instrumentation helps determine how the slope is performing and assists in the monitoring of the structure. "The Geology section goes along on the inspection to look at the embankment, the window drains, drainage ditches and abutments. We look at any aspect of the embankment to see how it's performing," said Corps geologist Kathy Older.

With the basin empty inspectors could fully evaluate the internal workings of the dam inside the outlet conduit. Inside the conduit are hydraulically operated service and emergency gates that are located 592' deep inside the expansive 23.5' concrete tube. Perry Lake has two service gates and two emergency gates. In the center of each service gate is a low flow gate. Pete Hentschel, mechanical engineer for the District, was responsible for inspecting the mechanical features of the dam (e.g. flood control gates, intake tower hydraulic system, stoplogs, cathodic protection systems, lubrication systems, etc.).

In the distilling basin are two rows of staggered baffle blocks (or energy dissipation blocks) that significantly reduce the velocity of the water before it goes into the outlet channel. Along the basin floor are drains that often get clogged with rocks, fishing lures and other debris. The district's drill crew spent four days cleaning out these drains with a labor intensive t-handled auger with a clamshell on the end. The drains are about six

Photo by Mike Watkins



Des Goyal, Kenny Wade, Darrell Brown and Sue Abbott discuss the periodic dam inspection at beautiful Perry Lake.

Photo by: Jennie Wilson



*Wedge Watkins U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist, explains to University of Missouri journalism students how the Jameson Island chute will create shallow water habitat for native fish like the pallid sturgeon.*

*Photo by Alicia Embrey*

## “Field reporting on the **Might MO!**”

*By Jennie Wilson*

Everyone loves a field trip. Even as an adult that doesn't change much. It's a guided adventure that allows us to see and experience something that we haven't done before. No matter who you are, there is always a buzz before the adventure begins.

Every year Bill Allen University of Missouri Assistant Professor of Agricultural Journalism coordinates a three day intensive “Field Reporting Course” for future journalists of America sponsored by the Sonja Hillgren/Farm Journal Ag Journalism Field Reporting Institute. This year's focus was the Missouri River. Coordinating an event of this caliber is short of a miracle with every moment meticulously planned so his students can immerse themselves in the course topic and experience what it's like to do real field reporting.

Jameson Island is a hot spot these days and future journalists of America were eager to see what the buzz is all

about. Saturday morning at the Big Muddy Center in Arrow Rock, Mo., 25 University of Missouri students gathered for a first hand look at the Jameson Island Chute. Jameson Island is nestled in the heart of the Midwest in the Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge. The refuge encompasses 11,178 acres and covers over 220 miles of the Missouri River from Kansas City to St. Louis.

Through a collaborated effort, members from state and federal agencies were there to assist in the tour. U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist Wedge Watkins gave an overview of the area's natural resource management and Chance Bitner, Corps hydraulic engineer reviewed structural aspects of the chute and how water would be channeled in the future through this area.

The chute is designed to create shallow water habitat to benefit young native fish species, especially the endangered Pallid Sturgeon, while

still maintaining other authorized purposes such as navigation, bank stabilization, and flood control. The goal of the project is to restore some of the aquatic habitat that has been lost due to modifications in the rivers channel and surrounding floodplain including levees, dikes and revetments that constrain the river to the main channel and prevent flooding of over bank areas. The chutes that are being created are part of a larger effort to restore a portion of the floodplain forests, wetlands and aquatic habitat that has dramatically diminished along the Missouri River. The majority of the refuge is located in the rivers natural floodplain.



# WATER SAFETY

By L. Joseph Donovan

The weather has cooled, and along with it so has the temptation to take a swim in our lakes and rivers. But the time around water this year is far from over—especially for boaters, and its import for people to take steps prior to going in the water to ensure safety.

**D**rowning is the nation's fifth leading cause of accidental death. Nationwide, swimming and boating fatalities constitute the two largest categories. Approximately half of the deaths were swimming-related and half were boating-related. Falling overboard or the vessel capsizing is the number one cause of boating-related fatalities. Most swimming-related drowning fatalities occur outside designated beach areas.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the leading provider of outdoor recreation on all Federally-managed public lands in the United States. With a recreation base that is primarily built around water, the Corps has a dedicated focus on water safety.

In an effort to improve public safety and water safety education, the Kansas City District Corps of Engineers collects public safety accident statistics that become part of a nationwide database. This data is analyzed for trends that might be helpful in preventing future accidents.

“These facts show us that the typical recreational visitor who is fatally injured at our lakes is an 18-35 year old male, swimming or boating on a weekend, usually intending to be in the water, not wearing a life jacket and sometimes consuming alcohol” said Greg Miller, natural resource specialist.

In looking at the statistics for the Kansas City District, 75 percent of the fatalities were related to swimming. According to Miller, “Many swimming fatalities occur when people overestimate their swimming ability. They are often trying to swim across a cove or they don't have adequate swimming experience to know their limits. Others are non-swimmers who are wading from shore to cool off. They usually get into trouble because the shoreline has drop-offs and other hidden hazards”.

How could similar accidents be prevented in the future? Miller says non-swimmers should never wade in an area that has not been designated for swimming. If they do they should be wearing a life jacket. Always use the designated beach areas and stay within the boundaries. Know your swimming ability and don't try to push the limits.

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# STOCKTON LAKE CLEANUP

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Stockton Lake hosted the eleventh annual “Stockton Lake Cleanup” event on Saturday, Sept., 2007. This event was held in conjunction with National Public Lands Day and Missouri Stream Team.

By *Donna Butler*

For the first time in several years, the volunteers had to contend with rain. Even with soggy conditions and challenges presented as a result of the rain, 148 people turned out to participate in the event and contributed to the care and protection of federal land surrounding Stockton Lake. Volunteers picked up over sixteen hundred pounds of debris from the shoreline and recreation areas, provided maintenance on the Cedar Gap Hiking Trail near the dam and planted flowers. Skin N Scuba dive team donated their time to conduct underwater cleanup at beaches and boat ramps. The volunteers provide an essential service to the community with their efforts promoting a safe, clean environment for the public to enjoy.

This year volunteers began their day by meeting at Cedar Gap Shelter near Stockton Dam to receive their work assignments. Some volunteers came in groups and represented the following organizations: Cedar County Family Services, Stockton Seekers 4H Club, The Good Samaritan Boys Ranch, Missouri Department of Conservation, Stockton Middle School and High School Student Council, Skin N Scuba Dive Club, Buffalo Schools, East Newton High School, Bolivar High School, Lake Stockton Yacht Club, Stockton First Southern Baptist Church Youth Group, Miss Missouri Princess Katie Walker, Stockton Girl Scouts, Humansville Future Farmers of America, Stockton Chamber of Commerce, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in addition to many members of the community. Even with adverse weather conditions, their dedication to the event was greatly appreciated.

With the rain starting to fall, volunteers returned to the shelter at 11 to enjoy an early lunch, provided by donations from area merchants and the Stockton Chamber of Commerce. Representatives of the Stockton Chamber of Commerce and the Cedar County Republican prepared



lunch. Everyone that participated during the event received a t-shirt and was entered in a drawing. Prizes for the event were donated by area merchants and the Missouri Stream Team.

The following groups play a huge roll in the success of this event through their support and contributions: Woods Super Market, Sonic Drive In, Buck N Bass, Stockton Mini-Mart, Sundae's Drive In, Fast Stop, Orleans Trail Restaurant and Marina, Russell's Variety, Mutton Creek Marina, Stockton MFA, Stockton State Park Marina, Sac River Valley Building Supply, Country Depot, Enrique's, Stream Team, Squeeze In, The Shack, Hot Spot, Boat House, Casey's General Store, Country Corner Café,

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# Give A Little. . .



# HELP A LOT

By *L. Joseph Donovan*

There are events in the Corps of Engineers that unite employees for a day, but the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) unites employees of the Kansas City District together for a Campaign. The CFC has been traditionally a time rich in camaraderie that brings everyone willingly to the table with not just donations, but ideas to make more money and volunteers to support it. And it's more than that. It's a time where someone sends you a balloon or a carnation that says thanks, a time to compete your secret recipe for chili. It's a time to laugh at your neighbor wearing a "Fred Flintstone" costume and a time that gets people out of their cubicles and offices. In the process of all this, you end up visiting with a few people you haven't seen for awhile. You hear about how kids went to scout camp, or about some new technology that enhanced the quality of life, or how Kansas

City looks a little nicer lately. These are just a few ways CFC has touched our lives.

On Oct. 3 CFC officially starts. The Chairman this year for the District is David Glandon, Chief of the Resource Management Office. As the District's 2007 CFC coordinator his role will be to provide senior leadership and manage all aspects of the campaign. Glandon will accomplish his commitment will assistance from his Steering Committee and a large group of canvassers and volunteers.

The 2007 CFC Steering committee, Natalae Tillman-Project Management Division, Florentine Gilkey-Engineering and Construction Division, Chris Ray-Operations Division, Benita Townsend-Real Estate Division, Bill Stephan-Contract Division and Tamara McDaniel-Resource Management Division. They have been tasked

with organizing the four fund raising events and recruiting canvassers for this year's campaign.

The CFC Canvassers are an important part of the campaign for the Corps, their job will be to distribute pledge forms to insure each person gets one and persuade fellow employees to pledge by either lump sum or by payroll deduction.

"Our theme this year", Glandon said, "is Give a little...Help a lot!" With the numbers of Corps employees declining through attrition and down sizing, our task becomes more of a challenge. However, the district employees have always, and will continue to step up to the plate to provide needed assistance to our community.

The Districts goal this year is \$93,000. "I have great confidence that we will meet and surpass that goal this year", said Glandon. "My personal goal is to get more people to give through payroll deduction". The district averages 200 to 225 pledges. "Rather than people making a one-time cash gift", Glandon said, "I'd like to see them change that to \$5 a pay period payroll deduction". For \$1,000 or a mere \$40 per pay period you can become an "Eagle Donor" and with that title goes this years auspicious eagle award.

To help reach this goal the CFC steering committee will be coordinating four events. On Oct. 23, Bonita Townsend is coordinating the CFC Idol. A Bake Sale is planned for Oct 30. For further information contact Robin Bridges. On Nov. 7, Tamara McDaniel will coordinate the Carnation Sale, and as always, this years LDP class will be putting their thirteen minds together to raise the bar from last years class by coming up with their own special event.

The CFC Kickoff, on Sept. 19, in Illus Davis Park, gave federal employees in Kansas City an opportunity to show their support for the community while having fun and networking with other agencies.

# National Hunting & Fishing Day Celebration at Milford Lake

By Cynthia Dierks, Park Ranger, Milford Lake

The Second Annual “National Hunting and Fishing Day” celebration was held Saturday, Sept. 22 at Milford Lakes Sportsman’s Acres and Outlet Park. Sponsors for this event were Ducks Unlimited, Fort Riley Conservation Office, Fort Riley Outdoor Group (FROG), Geary County Fish and Game Association, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Kansas Hunter Education Program, Pheasants Forever, Quail Forever and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Sportsman’s Acres, a leased area from the Corps of Engineers, is home to the Geary County Fish and Game Association; a sportsmen’s organization that offers trap shooting, archery, hunter safety education and many other public educational programming introducing the safe, recreational sport of firearms and archery.

National Hunting and Fishing Day was established by Congress in 1972. The fourth Saturday of each September is set aside to recognize the efforts of generations of hunters and anglers who support wildlife conservation and habitat improvements with billions of donated funds. Many species such as white-tailed deer and turkey populations in Kansas were brought back from the brink of disappearing by their efforts.

In 1972 under President Nixon, Congress established the fourth Saturday of each Sept. to recognize the efforts of generations of hunters and anglers who support wildlife conservation and habitat improvements with billions of donated funds.

The celebration was a “free” family event where all members of the family could “try-out” what was offered. The younger participants were attracted to hands-on archery, air rifles, shotguns, computer laser shot interactive hunting simulator, the Duck’s Unlimited poster coloring contest, the English Pointer dog demonstrations with live quail, and kid’s fishing and lure making. Adults were drawn to black powder muzzle loader, shed antler scoring, “Turkey Shoot”, GPS instruction/Geocaching, and shock boat demonstrations.

Over sixteen agencies and organizations, including the Corps of Engineers partnered together to bring this offering to the public. A single mom from Manhattan, Kan. brought her son “so someone could take him fishing”. Another mom, Tammy Hemmer, was searching for a safe activity for her son, “to provide him with a healthy outdoor alternative to computer games”. While watching her son try out archery for the first time, Zachary Hemmer turned to his mom with a big grin and said, “Mom, I could do this all day.”





# Awards for College

By *L. Joseph Donovan*

**R**esource Management's (RM) Janet Jones is smiling ear to ear and with good reason. Her daughter, a 2005 Lansing High School valedictorian graduate, is thriving as a student chemist at the University of Kansas.

University of Kansas sophomore Gwyndolyn Jones, was one of 12 recipients of a \$1,200 Undergraduate Research Award from KU's Honors Program. The Research Award is a boost for students that want to go to graduate school because it allows them to engage in research as an undergraduate, said Mark Nesbitt-Daly, associate director of the Honors Program, that provides enhanced educational opportunities to KU's most academically talented undergraduates.

Inorganic chemistry, the study of chemical compounds is Gwyndolyn's research project concerns. Specifically, she'll be working with anions until she graduates. Gwyndolyn explains that anions are negatively charged atoms such as fluoride and chloride. Her goal

is to press on and obtain her Ph. D. in chemistry.

Never imagining she would get to conduct research this early in her undergraduate experience, Gwyndolyn applied for the Undergraduate Research Award because she needed money for her research. "I was looking at different options and I realized that the Honors Program had money specifically for research," Gwyndolyn said. "I thought maybe I would have a good chance if I applied for it because I have been doing research since the beginning of last summer."

Associate director of the University Honors Program, and Gwyndolyn's honors adviser, Sue Lorenz said she was pleased with how she has forged ahead in her chemistry major.

"KU has a decent number of female faculty members in chemistry that are good role models, including Kristin Bowman-James, a chemistry professor and Jones' chemistry mentor", Lorenz said.

"Someday", Lorenz said,

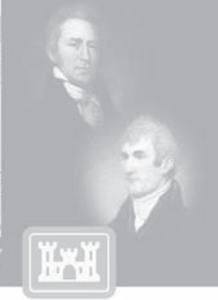
"Gwyndolyn might give that little extra modeling to somebody considering a career in the sciences."

Most weekends Gwyndolyn goes home to attend church at the First Baptist Church of Leavenworth. Gwyndolyn's parents Robert and Janet Jones and younger sisters Natalie and Hannah all live in Lansing, Kans. Gwyndolyn's mom, Janet, works at the Corps in RM as a Civil Budget Analyst.

Initially Gwyndolyn wanted to major in English as she an avid reader and also likes to write. She was influenced to pursue the sciences after "shadowing" Col Curtis a few years ago and being introduced to the Chemists in our Environmental Branch.

"I've really learned who I am now that I am working toward my goals," Gwyndolyn said. "I can take classes that pertain to my future, and I have gained a lot of confidence in myself by doing so. It's like I've found what I like doing and then I have to go to class on the side."





## 100 YEARS OF HISTORY

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The Environmental Defense Fund filed suit in 1972 to halt construction of the Harry S. Truman dam, which had experienced delays because of funding. The EDF charged the District had not met NEPA requirements. The District's Chief of Engineering, an attorney, devoted himself to working on the lawsuit for several months.

The U.S. District Court concluded the Kansas City District had "taken substantial and concrete steps" in preparing an environmental impact study even though the project had been under construction for five years before NEPA. The court supervised the District's conclusion of the study.

The Government Accounting Office was not satisfied with the Truman project. The GAO charged the District's cost estimating procedures were faulty and that it ought to have told the Congress the power production project could not pay for itself.

The congressional appropriations subcommittees said the District could not control the inflationary spiral and continued allocating minimal funding to keep some work going at Truman. Meanwhile, the project's critics, like the project itself, were only delayed.

The Kansas City District's mission to support the military effort was also hindered by the nation's economic woes.

The Nixon administration imposed budget ceilings on military expenditures. In 1970 the Department of Defense announced a two-fold plan which greatly affected the Kansas City District.

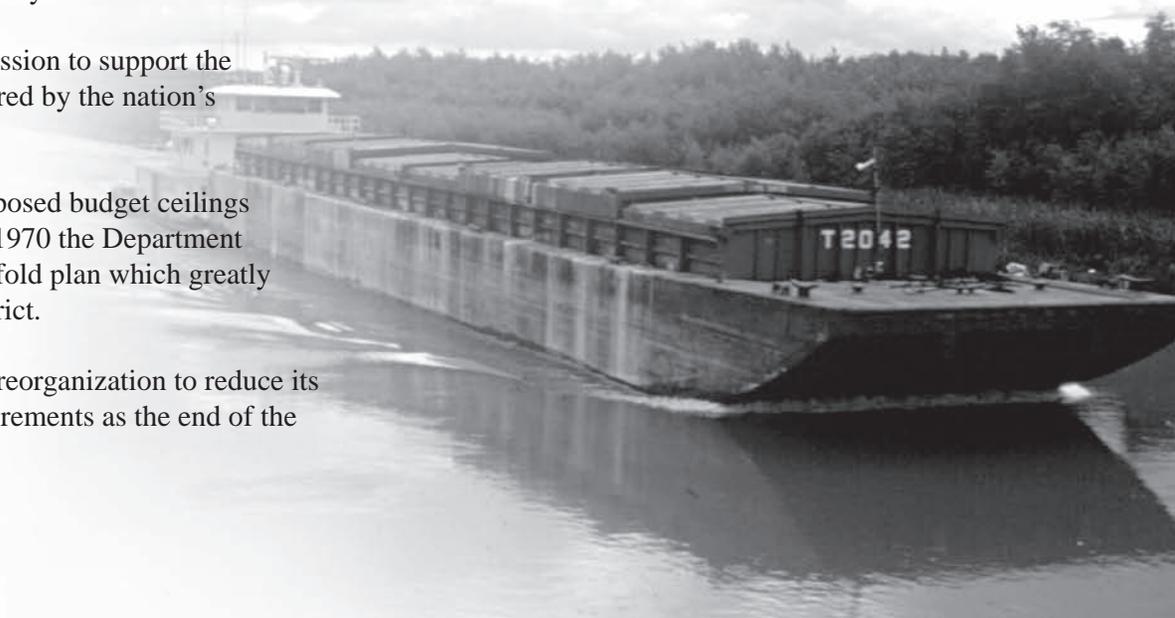
The DOD was undertaking a reorganization to reduce its manpower and facilities requirements as the end of the war in Vietnam drew near.

A second part of the DOD's plan reduced the number of Corps districts with military construction missions from 17 to 10.

On Mar. 4, 1970, the Kansas City District Engineer informed the staff the District's military mission was ended. At that time, the District's personnel authorization for military projects was 226 employees.

The Kansas City District's military mission in the period to 1970 was of special service to the nation. It was a time in which the people of the District grew professionally. Their development kept pace with a wide variety of challenging assignments and the rapid pace of innovative technology coming from the defense industry.

A review of the project assignments in this period reveals the importance of an experienced organization with highly trained, skilled and dedicated personnel who are in a "ready" position prepared to serve.



# THOSE DAM INSPECTORS

*continued from page 6*

feet deep. This process can only occur when there is a dewatering of the basin to expose the drains. "These drains help to relieve pressure that can build up below the concrete slab," said Corps geologist Joseph Topi.

"As for the results of the inspections everything is in really good shape and we're working on the minor repairs just to maintain the structure, general housekeeping stuff," said Nziramasanga.

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) owns and operates 610 dams that serve a variety of purposes including navigation, flood damage reduction, water supply, irrigation, hydropower, recreation, environmental enhancement, and combinations of these purposes. As part of our responsibility in managing these dams, USACE has a comprehensive Dam Safety Program that has public safety as its primary objective. USACE dams are routinely inspected and continually evaluated for safety in accordance with the Federal Guidelines for Dam Safety issued in 1979," states Laila Berre, civil engineer and Northwest Division Dam Safety Program Manager.

Berre continues by saying, "The objective of our Dam Safety Program is to maintain public safety and to make sure our dams are safe and risks are minimized. Routine inspections and monitoring are conducted, and emergency action plans are developed in coordination with local emergency management officials."

## WATER SAFETY

*continued from page 8*

For boaters the best action to take is to wear a life jacket and don't overload your boat with people or equipment. Most who drown didn't intend to

be in the water. While underway, be courteous, closely observe other boat traffic and proceed at reasonable speeds. Be aware of changing weather patterns. Let friends and family know where you're going, how long you'll be gone and who you're taking with you.

For more information regarding water safety go to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Internet page <http://watersafety.usace.army.mil/>

Never give safety a day off.

## STOCKTON LAKE CLEANUP

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Bongo's Bistro, A Nature's Garden, Stockton Clipper, A Country Creation, Extremes, Dixie's Klip N Kurl, Divine Images, Stockton Chamber of Commerce, Hammons Black Walnut Emporium, Liberty Bank, Westside Marine, Skin N Scuba (Kansas City), Bolivar Coca-Cola Dr. Pepper Bottling Company and Bolivar Wal-Mart Super Center.

The Stockton Lake twelfth annual cleanup event is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 13, 2008. For volunteer opportunities, please call the Stockton Lake Project Office at 417-276-3113.

## GIVE A LITTLE. . . GET A LOT

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A \$6 donation provided a 2007 CFC T-shirt, a Fritz BBQ catered lunch, and admittance to this celebration. There were games and prizes and the beautiful and talented Kansas City Chiefs Cheerleaders to cheer this event on.

When asked why give to CFC rather than to the charity itself Glandon said, "It's a convenient way to give to your hearts passion that can be spread out over the year by payroll deduction." He continued to say "giving doesn't just make a difference in someone's life,

it makes a difference in yours".

On Nov. 14 this campaign will end. For six weeks, there will be many reasons and opportunities to give. We work for the Corps, who's culture makes a difference in people's life through its mission at home and overseas, we can emulate that and make a difference in someone's life through our donations. As the Corps shows its concern for the world, your donation shows your concern for your community. You will be touched by a charity that benefits from CFC donations in your lifetime. Whether it is you, a family member, a friend, a co-worker or a neighbor; the many charities and organizations that your donation supports will make a difference. Your support will change someone's life.

### FACTS:

- The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) was implemented in 1961 (This is the 47th year).
- CFC is the largest employee charitable campaign in the world, raising over \$260 million worldwide in 2006.
- Federal Employees in the Fort Riley, Greater Topeka, & Kansas City area raised over \$3.5 million in 2006.
- More than 300,000 people in the Kansas City area benefited from CFC charities in 2006.
- 1 in every 3 people you meet today, will be personally affected by a CFC charity in the next 5 years.
- CFC is 100% donor choice, only the charities which a federal employee chooses, receive funds.
- Every charity is reviewed on an annual basis.
- Heartland CFC Administrative costs were 5.53% in 2006. The national average is 9.70% and the acceptable costs for charitable organizations is 25%.

# Information Management

## *Transitions to*

# New IT Service Provider

I've been asked to describe some of the changes that you will see taking place in the near future regarding the delivery of IT services to the district. While this is the perfect forum for communicating these changes, I'm not sure there is enough room to detail them all.

In 2003 the Corps of Engineers developed a Performance Work Statement with the goal of competing IM/IT services between private industry and the federal government. After a lengthy bid process, protest and subsequent court case, the government was announced as the winner of the competition in Mar. 2007. Once all the documentation was created, "I's" dotted and "T's" crossed, the new service provider, named Army Corps of Engineers, Information Technology, or ACE-IT, was given the notice to proceed on 15 May 2007. This began a one year transition period for the new ACE-IT organization to take over all of the IM/IT functions in the Corps.

ACE-IT is a partnership between the government and Lockheed-Martin, a contract company with vast experience in government operations. Their plan to provide IM/IT services is based on industry standards and best practices and builds on Lockheed-Martin's experience on similar government contracts.

If you have any pre-conceived notions regarding how IM/IT services will be delivered, you should abandon them now! ACE-IT is taking a radically different approach. Rather than 55 districts delivering services in 55 different ways with 55 different levels of service, ACE-IT's focus will be entirely on standardized, enterprise delivery of these services. Each district can expect to receive IM/IT services delivered in the same way with the same service levels across the corps. In the future, all IM/IT services provided will be ordered through a centralized Enterprise Service Desk (ESD) located in Madison, Alabama. Everything from PC hardware and software problems, copier service, video teleconferencing services, and visual information products, will be ordered through the ESD. This

will insure each product is tracked and delivered in accordance with the service level agreement for that product. Once the ESD ticket is closed, customers will be given the opportunity to complete a customer satisfaction survey that will be used to evaluate the performance of the service provider.

Many of you have heard that all our IT equipment will be replaced. While this may seem to be a waste of resources, in fact it makes perfect sense. Over the years, PC's and other IT equipment have become commodities that you can buy off the shelf. Study after study has shown that the cost of the equipment as it relates to the total cost of ownership is minimal compared with the support cost of that equipment. To address this issue, ACE-IT will be partnering with equipment providers that will also provide end-to-end support for their equipment. Desktop and laptop computer configurations will be standardized on a limited number of hardware platforms running standard software configurations. This will minimize support costs by the ESD as they will be able to remote control the machines and know exactly what to expect and how each piece of software interacts with another. In cases where the ESD can't remotely fix the problem, local help desk technicians will be dispatched to provide hands-on assistance. If the problem proves to be hardware related, the managed services provider will be dispatched with a replacement device. They will be responsible for setting up the new device and transferring all the unique programs and data from the old equipment. Rather than being down two or three days waiting on parts, the user could be back up and running the same day, depending on the service level agreement that is in place.

I have tried to describe some of the more significant changes, but this is in no way a complete representation of what you will be seeing in the new IM organization. There are bound to be some problems along the way as there are with any change of this magnitude. However, with your cooperation and understanding we will be ushering in a 21st century IM/IT organization that will be providing world-class IM/IT services.

# Kansas City District

## 1973

Kansas City District begins construction on Smithville dam and reservoir, Little Platte River, Mo. Damaging floods occur on upper Kansas River watershed.

Congress approves by resolution the Kansas River navigation project for a distance of 9.33 miles from the mouth of the river upstream.

Kansas City District completes environmental assessment of the Sec. 208 local protection project on the Elk Creek at Clyde, Kan.

South Topeka unit local protection work, the last of several in this capital city of Kan., is completed as authorized in the 1954 Flood Control Act.

City of Lawrence, Kan., requests Kansas City District to work cooperatively to develop recreation plans and facilities for Stages I and II local protection project initially authorized in 1954.

Congress appropriates funds for construction of Hillsdale dam and reservoir on the Marais des Cyngnes (Osage) basin in Kansas, and allocates the funds to FY1974.

Stockton Lake is officially completed and the power operation encounters problems.

Kansas City District initiates construction of Long Branch dam and reservoir on the Little Chariton River in Missouri.

Congress appropriates funds to construct the Little Blue River channel modification and the Kansas City District begins construction in 1974.

Kansas City District begins a reanalysis of the Grand River basin to determine the effects of changed economic conditions and impacts on the feasibility of authorized lakes or local protection projects.

## 1974

Construction is initiated on Hillsdale dam and reservoir.

Corps and EPA define their relationship regarding water pollution management responsibilities.

Jackson County, Mo., approves a recreation cost-sharing contract for the Little Blue River Lakes, which the Secretary of the Army later approves.

Kansas City District, in cooperation with the state of Missouri and other agencies, completes a study to determine the advisability of providing additional improvements for flood control on the Osage River basin.

The Corps places channel modifications on the Platte River and the Little Platte River, Missouri and Iowa, in the inactive category.

## 1975

Kansas City District initiates "riverine habitat and floodway restoration" program as part of Missouri River Stabilization and Navigation project.

## 1976

Corps and EPA achieve a memorandum of understanding on water quality regulations.

President-elect James Earl "Jimmy" Carter promises to "end the unnecessary construction of dams by the Corps of Engineers."