



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New Orleans District

Riverside

www.mvn.usace.army.mil

June 2002

Team Achievement Awards



Security system
gets upgrade

Picnic winners



Wheeler at
Woldenberg Park

Carrollton Gage



Col. Thomas F. Julich

This is Col. Julich's last column for Riverside. Col. Peter Rowan will be replacing him as district commander on July 12. Public Affairs wishes the colonel and his family the very best in New York state.

When I look back over the last three years a number of thoughts come to mind. First of all, I cannot believe it has gone by so quickly, but such is life, as we all know. We have come a long way in those three years and accomplished a lot. The credit for all of our successes belongs to you for we all know they were a team endeavor. Each of you, as members of the New Orleans Team, in coordination with all the state and federal agencies and the many other stakeholders we deal with, made these things happen. The Army is indebted to you. I am quite proud of the relationships that we have built with all of these organizations over the years. Believe me that is not the norm, even though it should be. Your consistent and professional performance of duty has built up trust between these organizations and us, and that has made our excellent relationships possible.

I leave here knowing that the New Orleans District has made a real difference these last three years, making Louisiana a better place to live and work. I challenge each of you to continue in that mode. Do what you can to make a positive difference as a member of the New Orleans Team.

My family and I are moving to West Point, New York, where I will be the director of Public Works at the United States Military Academy. It will be a challenging job, and one I look forward to.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being your district commander. Believe me, I would stay in this position if I could, but that is not to be. I view these last three years as the most challenging and rewarding of my career. I'm sure that in the future I will periodically reflect back on our great accomplishments while here in the district, but what will really stay with me is the memories of the great people I had the opportunity to work with. It was an honor to serve with you!

Mary and I wish you all the best in your future!

Tom

Riverside

June 2002 Vol. 13 No. 6

Commander

Col. Thomas F. Julich

Public Affairs Chief

Jim Addison

Acting Editor

Eric S. Lincoln

Contributing Writers

Amanda McLain, Eric Hughes

Graphic Artists

Anne Marino, Elena Napolitano

Authorization: The New Orleans District RIVERSIDE is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Corps of Engineers or the Department of the Army. Comics reprinted by permission of United Features.

Submissions: Articles and story ideas are welcome; publication depends on general interest as judged by the editor. Direct queries to the editor by calling (504) 862-2201 or e-mail Eric.S.Lincoln@mvn02.usace.army.mil.

Circulation: 2,150 copies per issue.



Lane Lefort

Bert Mayberry, Operations Division, receives recognition from Col. Julich at the Team Achievement Celebration for 40 years of service.

Issuing permits in Regulatory Branch hectic, challenging, say managers

By Amanda McLain

Last month, we wrote on the environmental side of Regulatory Branch. This month's article explains how the branch works and how permits are issued.

The Regulatory Branch evaluates permit applications for work in U.S. waters, which usually means installation of structures or placement of fill in waters or wetlands. It makes the decision to issue or deny these permits. Regulatory handles permit applications for the southern part of Louisiana from Mississippi to Texas, and north to Alexandria.

There are three sections of Regulatory that employ about 50 people. Ron Ventola is the chief of Regulatory Branch, which consists of the following sections.

Pete Serio, chief of the Western Evaluation Section, has been with the Corps since 1974, and has worked for the branch for 24 years. His section handles permits that come in for the western part of the state. When a permit comes in, he assigns it to a project manager for processing.

Ronnie Duke does the same thing with the eastern part of the state as chief of the Eastern Evaluation Section. He has worked for Regulatory for 15

years. Both sections have about 17 employees.

John Bruza, Regulatory veteran of 15 years, is chief of the Surveillance and Enforcement Section. Enforcement identifies wetlands and other waters, including navigable waters. It also responds and investigates any complaints about unauthorized work in areas under Clean Water Act author-

ity, which the permit program helps to regulate.

According to Bruza, if unauthorized work is being done, his section works to resolve any legal issues and get the person into compliance with regulations.

"This could require anything from taking an enforcement action against them to just getting them into the permit process," Bruza said.

All three managers agree that a typical day in the Regulatory Branch is hectic. Employees have a large work load that keeps them busy. They must also deal with the general public and local, state and other federal agencies. "On any given day, you could be talking to any one of these people in addition to actually trying to do your work," Serio said.

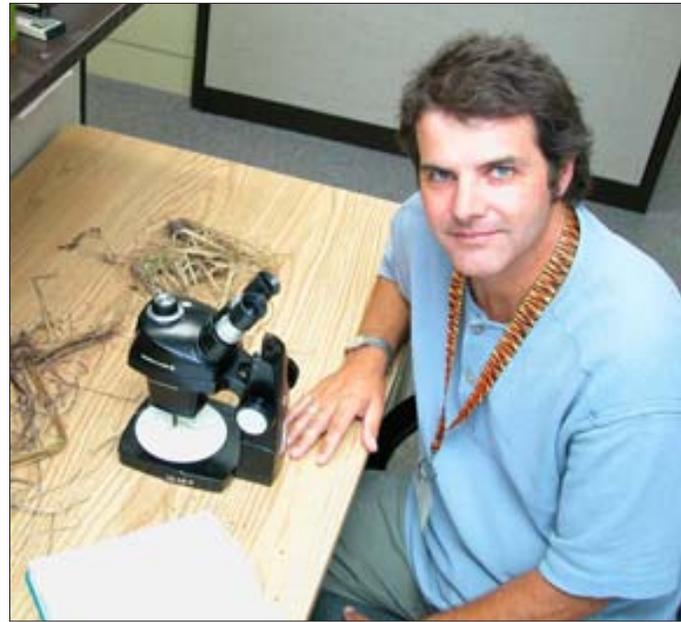
The first thing a person must do to get a permit is fill out an application. They submit the application with drawings that clearly show where and how work will be done. As Serio explained, "We send the permit application with a packet that basically explains the

whole program." This information is also posted

on our website. Recently, the branch added a page for public notices, where the public can view new public notices and track their status.

Regulatory looks over all applications to make sure the information is complete and the drawings are clear. Frequently, the applicant must provide additional information.

Proposed actions that result in minor impact may be authorized by a general or nationwide permit. General permits can usually be processed within a couple of weeks, however, projects that exceed the general



Botanist Robert Heffner makes wetland delineations and investigates violations of the Clean Water Act. He also manages the Regulatory Web pages.

permit criteria are considered individual actions and require a full environmental evaluation and public notice, which can take anywhere from 90 to 120 days.

Duke explained that the decision whether to issue a permit is based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. He said the decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources.

The district issues about 4,000 permits a year. These permits are for a large variety of projects. As Duke said, "It can range from a pier all the

See PERMITS, page 10

Cameras, electric gates will boost MVN security

By Eric Lincoln

The two employees casually walking together in the parking lot near the east side of the building had no idea they were being

watched from above.

But with the security camera mounted near the rooftop, Dave Justison, chief of security, could zoom in all the way to easily identify the two men walking far below.

The district's new \$400,000 camera system, designed two years ago, is now installed and operating, said Justison. Some computer bugs still have to

be worked out before the system is fully operational, but it should all be completed by the end of June.

"We've gone from one camera to 20," said Justison.

The new security system will ultimately include electric gates that can either be opened by a guard in the Security Office or with the upcoming Smartcard ID's for all employees, and should cut our surveillance costs by about half, Justison said. "Our guard force costs over \$500,000 a year and the cost increases every year...this system will pay for itself in two to three years."

"We're trying to get the most security for the least manpower."

See SECURITY, page 12



Scott Riecke

Five split-screen monitors allow security guards (Lt. Dan Naquin, standing, and Clarence Reddick) to view the grounds outside of the buildings and inside the main entrances.



Scott Riecke

TAC, from page 7

Larry Dressler, Curtis Eickenloff, Kevin Galley, Mark Gonski, Wilfred Graff, Timothy Hart, Chester Hayes, Tonya Heskett, Doyle Hunt, Alvin Hunter, Robert Lebouef, Allen Matherne, Donald Mitchell, Van Nguyen, Mike Park, John Patterson, Marvin Penton, Dana Perkins, Herbie Petit, Reginald Reese, Jack Rouquette, Steven Schinetsky, Dennis Strecker, Lynn Tinto and William Zar.

West Bank Sector Gate Design Team

The team prepared a first-of-its-kind, float-in concept for constructing and installing a sector gate complex for the Harvey Canal, eliminating the need for an expensive, temporary by-pass navigation channel.

Team: John Agan, Carl Balint, Daniel Bradley, Reynold Broussard, Larry Dressler, Christopher Dunn, Curtis Eickenloff, Anthony Gallodoro, Brian Gannon, Mark Gonski, Ulysses Hester, Hugh Howat, Darrell Normand, Julie Oliphant, Charles Rome, Dennis Strecker, Charles Studdard, Rachael Tranchina, Rich Varuso and Craig Waugaman.

Insight Intranet Home Page Team

This team redesigned the district's Intranet home page, making it easy to use, cost-effective, fast and flexible.

Team: Jim Addison, Louis Banner, George Brown, Greg

Gagliano, Mike Murphree, Susan Pellegrin, Tutashinda Salaam and Ralph Scheid.

Coast 2050 Collocated Team

This team fosters "team synergy" and represents numerous state and federal agencies, as well as various Corps district elements. They have worked swiftly and efficiently towards completing the comprehensive Coast 2050 study and obtaining a potential \$14 billion construction authorization for coastal restoration projects.

Team: Tim Axtman, Jason Binet, Richard Boe, Bob Bosenberg, Gay Browning, Courtney Chatman, Troy Constance, Howie Gonzales, Sue Hawes, Michael Holland, Rebecca Huffman, Jay Joseph, Bill Klein, Julie LeBlanc, Linda Lillycrop, John Lopez, Wanda Martinez, Greg Miller, Chris Monnerjahn, Amanda Padalewski, Tom Podany, Gary Rauber and Harley Winer.

NRCS: Allen Bolotte and Cindy Steyer.

DNR: Honora Buras, Ken Duffy and Jon Porthouse.

WES: Buddy Clairain

EPA: John Ettinger

FWS: Cathy Grouchy

NOAA: Bren Haase and Joy Merino.

USGS: Clint Padgett

LUSTER Contractor: Gary Hanneman

By
Eric Lincoln

The Corps spread its wings in May at a Ducks Unlimited (DU) convention of more than 100,000 hunters and conservationists in Memphis, Tenn..

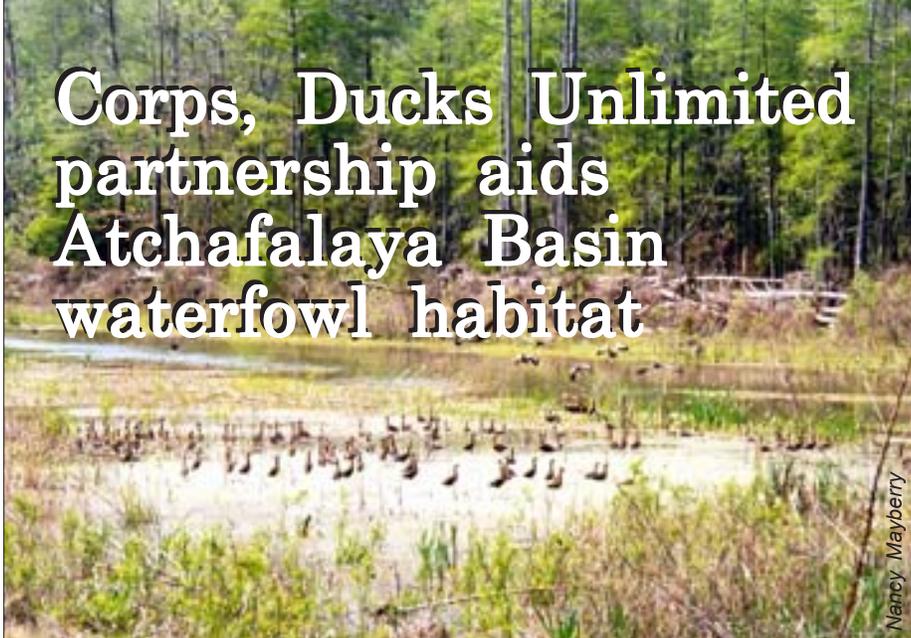
Corps biologists Jay Gamble and Chris Brantley spoke with attendees about the Corps' partnership with DU in the Atchafalaya Basin and the restoration of waterfowl habitat in coastal Louisiana.

"Ducks Unlimited has been very supportive of Corps projects in the past and this was a good chance for us to explain to their members the Corps' interest in conservation," said Gamble.

DU is a private wildlife conservation and hunting group that worked with the Corps, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Exxon and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council in the spring of 1994 to develop and manage about 2,400 acres of land in the Bayou Des Ourses area of the Atchafalaya Basin Floodway.

Preservation, restoration and enhancement of waterfowl habitat in this part of the basin

Corps, Ducks Unlimited partnership aids Atchafalaya Basin waterfowl habitat



Nancy Mayberry

involves reforestation and the construction of low levees and water-control structures. The project will continue until 2019, after which the area will be re-analyzed for further options. A "moist soil management" strategy currently assures optimum waterfowl habitat during the fall and winter months and ideal habitat for wading and shore birds during the breeding and migratory seasons.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries currently manages the project, flooding old soybean fields on the site periodically

to disturb the vegetation and create a nutrient-rich source of food for birds.

Since the work began, over 60 species of migratory birds have nested each year in the region.

"Management of these areas allows us to track bird migration patterns and know whether or not the marsh is healthy," said Brantley.

"If Ducks Unlimited hadn't come forward when they did, the property would probably have converted to a young, thick forest. It was a good partnership to maintain quality waterfowl habitat in the Atchafalaya."

To help pay the initial \$986,000 cost of the project, DU utilized the

See DUCKS, page 8

Queen Bess Island in Barataria Bay is a migratory bird nesting area that was being steadily eroded away. The Corps ringed it with rock in 1992 and pumped in dredged material to boost the land area. Now, out of an estimated 6000 breeding pairs of endangered brown pelicans on the Gulf Coast, more than 2500 pairs of them nest every year on the island.



Mike Maples

Team Achievement Awards

Linda Fernandez, Susan Hennington, Amanda Jones, Lane Lefort, Michael Maples, Peggy O'Hara, Tutashinda Salaam, Stephen Slumber, Michelle Spraul, Thomas Tobin, Janice Williams, Joyce Williams, Carolyn Wilson and JoAnn Woods.

Morganza to the Gulf Hurricane Protection Team

This team evaluated and designed a hurricane protection system for Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes. The resulting

This year's first TAC ceremony honored eight teams, from the Coast 2050 team to the Insight intranet home page team. "These teams went above and beyond to get our projects on the ground and running," said Col. Julich at the June 8 ceremony. "They epitomize what the New Orleans District means to me."

Caernarvon Freshwater Diversion Structure Hired Labor Repair Team

The team quickly repaired the structure's gate, which controls flows of fresh water from the Mississippi River into Breton Sound, following an electrical prob-

lem, and fabricated a spare stem for future use and delivered it to Plaquemines Parish officials who operate the structure.

Team: Adam Bocklud, Bruce Breaux, Felix Cretini,

project is a \$680 million levee system that extends for 72 miles with 12 sector-gated floodgates, a navigation lock in the Houma Navigation Canal and various other features.

Team: Ken Ashworth, James Austin, Steven Ayres, Toni Baldini, John Bivona, Daniel Bradley, Del Britsch, Rick Broussard, J. Christopher Brown, Lori Brown, Richard Butler, Allen Coates, Troy Constance, Nathan Dayan, Frank Duarte, Carolyn Earl, David Elmore, Steve Finnegan, Rodney Greenup, Janis Hote, Falcolm Hull, Don Jolissaint, Robert Lacy, Jennifer Lefort, Brian Maestri, Joey Marceaux, August Martin, Robert Martinson, David McDaniel, Robert Northey, Michael Palmieri, John Petitbon, Nancy Powell, David Poynter, Jackie Purrington, Jay Ratcliff, John Reddoch, James Richardson, Marco Rosamano, Dennis Strecker, Robert Thomson, Paul Varnado, Daniel Whalen and Michael Zack

Davis Pond Dedication Team



Length of Service

Left to right: Danell Barrett (sister to Paulette), Paulette Salassi, husband Paul Salassi and their daughter Amy Goodlett have a small dynasty at the Corps.

Mark D'Antoni, Donald J. Davis, Willie Harris, Timothy Hart, Alvin Hunter, Larry McKendall, Donald Mitchell, Joe Olejnik, Marvin Penton, Herbert Petit, Larry Trout and Raymond Williams.

Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day Team

This team, each bringing his or her own special talents to the endeavor, planned, coordinated and organized a program that was educational as well as fun for our 37 young guests.

Team: Sandra Brown, Dorothy Cooper, Shenetta Della,



Caernarvon Hired Labor Repair Team



InSight Web Page Team

The dedication ceremonies for the opening of the Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion Project on March 26 involved months of planning and coordination by the New Orleans District, the state of Louisiana and St. Charles Parish. This team spent many hours coordinating the numerous details to ensure that this important event would be successful.

Team: Jim Addison, Don Alette, Wade Benoit, Gayle Boone, Bruce Breaux, Gerald Collins, Jack Fredine, Kathy Gibson, John Hall, Alvin Hunter, Shelton Kennedy, Kathleen Klein, Lane Leforte, Marti Lucore, Mike Maples, Ralph Marchese, Anne Marino, Nancy Mayberry, Julie Morgan, Al Naomi, Elena Napolitano, Bac Nguyen, Dana Perkins, Mary Pizzuto, Scott Riecke and David Sills.



Morganza to the Gulf Team

Mike Maples

Calcasieu Lock Gate Installation Team

This team was able to successfully install two new sector gates and complete concrete repairs to the west gate bay without mishap while keeping marine traffic delays within manageable levels.

Team: Carl Balint, Wade Benoit, Martin Blackwell, Lynell Brandon, Clayton Broom, Ken Broussard, Bill Clendenon, Tim Connell, Donald Constantine, Mark D'Antoni, Troy Davis,

See TAC, page 4

LENGTH OF SERVICE

30 Years

Danell Barrett, program analyst, Engineering Division; **Jackie Callender**, program analyst, Project Management Division; **Sheila Enclade**, contract specialist, Contracting Division; **Jack Fredine**, civil engineer, Project Management Division; **Joe Gibson**, computer assistant, Information Management Office; **Roland Gonzales**, machinist on the dredge Wheeler, Operations Division; **Don Hebert**, civil engineering technician, Operations Division; **Quintin Johnson**, lock & dam equipment mechanic, Operations Division; **Judy Kehoe**, statistical assistant, Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center; **Wayne Naquin**, civil engineer, Engineering Division; **Joan O'Keefe**, workforce management support specialist, Construction Division; **Ell Pilie**, civil engineer, Engineering Division

35 Years

Jim Flock, chief, Information Management Office; **Paul Salassi**, General Engineering Branch; **Linda Champagne**, CPAC; **Chester Derouen**, lock & dam operator, Leland Bowman Lock; **Diane Pecoul**, acting chief, Projects East Branch, Contracting Division; **Benjamin Stewart**, lock & dam equipment operator, Algiers Lock; **Gary Herndon**, civil engineering technician, Foundation and Materials Branch

40 Years

Bert Mayberry, supervisor, Maintenance Unit, Operations Division



Mike Maples

Pictured with his wife, Immaculate, and Col. Julich: Chester Derouen, lock & dam operator at Leland Bowman Lock, receives an award for 35 years of service

DUCKS, from page 5

North American Wetlands Conservation Act of 1989, which provides for every dollar of federal money allotted for a wetlands conservation project to be matched by one dollar or more from non-federal sources, like DU. The act stimulates public-private partnerships that manage wetland habitats and maintain proper distribution and abundance of migratory birds.

Ducks Unlimited regional biologist Hugh Bateman said that in addition to the work they've already accomplished with the Corps, DU has "hopes of doing some coastal restoration work with the Coast 2050 coalition," as well.



The Corps, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Exxon and the North American Wetlands Conservation Council worked together to develop land for recreation and wildfowl habitat in the Sabine Refuge. "It was a good partnership," said Corps biologist Chris Brantley.

Mike Maples

Employees asked to re-examine work beliefs

PMBP aims to unite Corps, change culture

By Eric Hughes

The New Orleans District will soon begin a Corps-wide training curriculum called the Project Management Business Process (PMBP). This new process will become the standard business approach for all Corps employees, and implementation will be completed in FY03.

John Saia, deputy district engineer for project management, is the district's PMBP curriculum champion and Ada Benavides-Hill, project manager, is spearheading the training as the PMBP project manager coordinator.

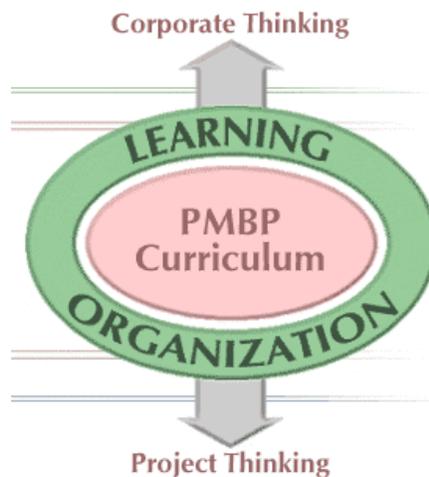
The purpose of this new process is to develop a modern business environment that will nurture project management. It will transform USACE into a customer-oriented, team-based learning organization. In order to sustain the PMBP, all Corps employees will need to re-examine their work beliefs, role relationships, behaviors, attitudes and work culture. The PMBP curriculum will provide the framework for this. The new business process is derived from industry best-business practices and the Corps Strategic Vision.

There are four methods that will be used to implement the PMBP: self-study, small-group discussions, mentoring and coaching, and a formal training program. Similar to CorpsPath, self-study allows employees to

train at their desk using interactive CD-ROMs and Internet-based modules. The PMBP curriculum consists of eight courses that emphasize the new business process, team development, leadership, customer service, and project delivery teams. All employees will have to complete four courses. The others will be mandatory for certain positions or organizational elements.

Unlike CorpsPath, 19 individuals will be trained to facilitate the small-group discussions. They will be the backbone of the training. Managers, supervisors and more experienced team members will play critical and supportive roles as mentors and coaches during the implementation. Throughout the curriculum, a more formalized training plan will also be identified for various positions, as required.

When PMBP is finally implemented, it will unite all the Corps' elements into one organization with a common knowledge, where every task we do is considered a project and every employee is a team member. The overall goal of PMBP is to make the Corps into the world's most efficient, productive and effective public engineering organization. To learn more about the PMBP curriculum, check the Internet at <http://www.hq.usace.army.mil/pmbp2/>.





A rain-soaked picnic

The Corps enjoyed its yearly picnic on June 7 in Audubon Park with clear skies and sunny weather until about 11:30, when rain cooled everything off. Here are this year's contest winners:

Golf

Low gross

1st - Carl Anderson, Sean Burdine, Ron Elmer, Brett Herr

2nd - Chris Mart, Steve Dalferes, Ron Olsen, Lionel Gele

Low net

1st - Ellsworth Pilie, Ellsworth Pilie Jr., Louis Danflous, Don Marsalone

2nd - Joe Petta, Kevin Hartley, Eddie Mayers, Jim Grover

Closest to the hole

2nd - Roger Gonzalez

11th - Brett Herr

13th - Sean Burdine

17th - Ed Mayers

Long drive

3rd - Brian Illg

Run

Male

1st - Jay Ratcliff

2nd - Kyle Weidenbacher

3rd - Daniel Ngyen

Female

1st - Christine Seaworth

2nd - Trudy Vinger

3rd - Michelle Spraul

Walk

Male

1st - Dave Wurtzel

2nd - Rob Waldron

3rd - Dennis Beer

Female

1st - Michele Bivona

2nd - Joel Osterhold

3rd - Sara Beer

Cooking

Judges were Mike Maples, John Hall and Rich Manguno. Margaret Tucker helped to break a tie in the Side Dish Category.

Side Dishes

1st - Angela Adams' Crawfish

Pasta Salad

2nd - Rob and

Rachel Waldron's

Creole Stewed

Okra and Tomatoes

3rd - Amanda

Jones' Sweet

Potatoes

Deserts

1st - Nathan

Dayan's Key Lime

Pie

2nd - Sandy

Habbaz's Tender Lemon Squares

3rd - Ashley Gussoni's Brownie-Walnut Pie (picture, above right)

Tennis

Singles

1st - Doug Dillon

2nd - Jason Bettisworth

Doubles

1st - Marti Lucore and Jack Fredine

2nd - Cathy Slumber and Brian Oberlies

Volleyball

1st - The NOD Raiders (Team Captain Melvin Ray)

2nd - PMD (Team Captain Howie Gonzales)

The picnic collage will appear next month.



Nancy Habisreitering (RM) and her husband Robert said they enjoyed visiting the zoo after the picnic.



Ashley Gussoni

Ashley Gussoni

Mike Maples

Ashley Gussoni

Mike Maples

Construction

SELA FUNDING SHORTAGES— Letters about an anticipated shortage of funds were sent to SELA contractors in May, and again in June. Meetings were held with the contractors to discuss the option of working without payment until funds become available, but no decisions have been made yet. The district has promised funding only through June, and will try to obtain any surplus funds from Corps projects in other districts.

COMITE RIVER MEETING—The Corps held a May 2 meeting with non-federal sponsors and effected property owners to discuss relocation and the schedule for construction on the Comite River Diversion Project. The Corps started working with property owners in the Lilly Bayou area where the first construction contract will be awarded late this summer. Meetings will be held throughout the life of the project to keep the community informed of ongoing construction and relocation activities.

WETLANDS HELICOPTER FLIGHT— A four-hour helicopter flight on May 9 gave federal, state and local officials, headquarters personnel and an NPR news reporter a view of wetland deterioration and the many projects in coastal Louisiana to help reduce land loss, from the Davis Pond Freshwater Diversion Project

to the Barataria Barrier Islands. The flight gave the visitors an appreciation of the destruction of the wetlands and the urgent need for a comprehensive restoration plan.

ST. CHARLES LEVEE WORK REVIVED— The Cross Bayou drainage structure in St. Charles Parish's east bank hurricane levee is under construction again almost a year after the contractor, Crawford James Construction Inc., went bankrupt and walked off the job in July 2001. The \$2.4 million contract was to be completed in September 2001. Another construction company is slated to finish the job in four to six months. Senior Project Manager Al Naomi said that residents shouldn't worry. "This contract problem hasn't placed St. Charles at any greater risk than it was before," he said. Cross Bayou is one of five drainage structures in

the 10-mile-long levee, which also includes two floodgates and four flood walls.

LOCK DESIGN CONTRACT AWARDED— URS Group Inc., leading a 10-member team, won a \$7.5 million contract in May for the initial design work on the new navigation lock on the Industrial Canal. The contract will run for three years with options for two additional three-year periods and could be worth as much as \$20 million over the full nine years. Design work involves the lock itself, the foundations and the guide walls. The replacement project is estimated to cost \$635 million, including the design and a \$38 million community mitigation program. The URS Group, which has an office in Metairie, is a unit of URS Corp., a worldwide engineering company based in San Francisco.

PERMITS, from page 3

way up to large industrial development costing millions." Most of the permits are general permits. The district only processes about 600 individual permits a year, but many of these are controversial and require extended evaluation periods.

Employees must also deal with

individual conflicts. Serio tells all new employees "You must separate environmental and personal feelings from the job or you will not like working in Regulatory." They must sometimes issue a permit for work they do not think should take place, but they have certain regulations to follow and must balance the needs of the public and the applicant with the

impact to the environment.

Even though working in the Regulatory Branch is a highly stressful job that many people get fed up with and leave, Serio said, "It's an interesting job, because it seems like you have a new challenge every day. It's not boring or monotonous."



Lane Lefort

Around the District

Congratulations

to **Angele Walters** (RE), who graduated with an honors bachelor of arts degree, magna cum laude, from Loyola University on May 18.

to Claire Popovich, daughter of **George Popovich** (CD), who recently completed her freshman year of UNO's honors college with a 4.0 GPA.

to **Sharon Richarme** (PM), whose son, Kevin, received the Thomas R. Pickering Foreign Affairs Fellowship at Georgetown University.

to **Tracy Falk** (OD), who completed a long-term training assignment in May to fulfill requirements for a master's degree in engineering management from UNO.

to **Miriam Crespo** (OC), who made a 3.6 GPA and the dean's list at UNO last semester. Miriam is a junior, pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in political science.

to **LaToya Davis** (OC), who graduated from McMain Magnet School, summa cum laude.

to **Kathleen Gibson** (LM), whose daughter Shante' scored in the top 10 percent in the nation on the SAT, was awarded the Presidential Education Award and graduated salutatorian of eighth grade at Marian Central Catholic Middle School. Also, Kathleen's son Rodney won first place in the spelling bee.

to **Roeshawn Magee** (CD), who graduated with a bachelor of arts in mass communications from Xavier University on May 11.

to **Rachel Beer** (PM), who received her CFM certification. Rachel is working on her master's degree in engineering management at UNO.

Condolences

to **Nancy Powell** (ED), whose father, Sam Powell, died on May 7. Sam worked for the Corps for 50 years and was

chief of hydraulic design in headquarters when he retired on April 30.

to **Michael O'Dowd**, lockmaster at IHNC Lock, whose father, Leo (ED, retired), passed away on May 19.



Mike Maples

Roger Gonzales gets a little advice from his friends while trying to sink a putt at the picnic on June 7. Left to right: **Bobby Gautreau** (husband of **Sandy Gautreau**, CD, and brother of **Paul Gautreau**, ED), **Jim Flock** (ED), **Paul Gautreau** and **Roger Gonzalez** (CD).

to the family of **Floyd Hebert**, a retired maintenance mechanic supervisor at Morganza Control Structure, who passed away on June 9.

to the family of **Bernel Thomas Sr.**, drill crew foreman (ED), who died on May 9. Thomas retired about five years ago.

to the family of **James (Oliver) White**, lock and dam equipment mechanic at IHNC Lock, who died on May 27.

to **Judith Frichter** (IM), whose brother, Arnold Jr., passed away on May 27.

DILBERT® by Scott Adams



Talk Back

Last month we solicited your comments on "Office Moves." Respondents agreed that the temporary inconveniences are outweighed by the long-term benefits of a more comfortable workspace.

Not missing the clowns

The office moves have added much more personality to the building. The original office layouts were likely designed by office space designers who used uniform grids and cubicle sizes — while efficient, the effect was very monotonous. The moved offices have tailored their space without any "professional" intervention and the effect is very interesting and more personal. Also, the hallway colors are very nice. And who misses the pictures of clowns and western scenes? Not me...

Ralph Sheid
Engineering Division

Comfort is worth it

The on-going maintenance and improvements to our current buildings are really an asset. For instance, once the pictures were removed from the halls, it was much more apparent that the wall paper was becoming discolored and worn. While the short-term impacts of getting new carpet, wall paper and other changes may be small, temporary disruptions, it is well worth the long-term benefits of maintaining and upgrading the facility.

Edmund Russo
Operations Division

*Edmund is the winner of our free parking space .

SECURITY, from page 4

The decision to install the new system had nothing to do with the Sept. 11 attacks, Justison points out. "The design from Huntsville was approved two years ago but we've only just gotten the funding to do it," he said.

Fifteen cameras are outdoors, and five indoor cameras watch the freight elevators and lobbies. Four existing cameras in the credit union have been integrated into the new system.

One camera gives a fantastic view of the back area of the Castle Kids Development Center, which may give parents a better sense of security for their children.

Four black and white monitors with multi-screens show a view from each camera. With the touch of a button, guards can choose one camera to control with a joystick and view its picture in detail on a smaller screen in the center of the camera montage.

"I was never too good at video games," Justison said, as he manipulated the device, trying to show different angles.

There are also plans for cameras to monitor hallways, and magnetic locks that will let security open and lock all exterior doors remotely from the Security Office.

TO HAVE YOUR
IDEAS PRINTED
IN THE NEXT ISSUE

AND

WIN A RESERVED
PARKING SPOT
FOR AN ENTIRE
MONTH

RESPOND BY
JULY 14

LET US KNOW WHAT
YOU THINK ABOUT
THIS MONTH'S
TALK BACK TOPIC:

DEVELOPMENTAL
TRAINING

>AS A NEW ENGINEER AT
MVN, WHAT WOULD YOU
WANT TO GAIN FROM A
DISTRICT-WIDE DEVELOP-
MENTAL TRAINING PRO-
GRAM?

THE EDITOR RESERVES
THE RIGHT TO PICK
WHICH RESPONSES TO
PUBLISH AND AWARD.

Department of the Army
New Orleans District, Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 60267
New Orleans, LA 70160-0267
Office: Public Affairs Office
Official Business

First Class Mail
Postage & Fees Paid
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
New Orleans District
Permit No. 80