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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LOUISVILLE DISTRICT



**Championship
season for
furniture team**

See page 3

Commander's Comments

Certain months have natural themes, and October is a great time to take a deep breath and recall a few of the success stories from the past fiscal year.

I made it around to witness the frenzy of the year-end close out, and am humbled by what I saw. In the last week alone, contracting awarded more than \$100 million in new contracts and closed out the year with more than 5,000 contract actions valued at \$1.1 billion. Our teams exceeded the Corps small business contract awards by large margins —providing economic benefits and jobs directly to the towns in which we are doing business.

LRL met this September's deadline for executing the BRAC 2005 mission by completing the design and construction of 123 projects involving the purchase of 31 separate real estate properties and representing \$2.8 billion in construction in 36 states and Puerto Rico. Our efforts have been applauded around the Department of Defense as monumental and there are 123 monuments to you out there, from the largest office building in the state of Kentucky at Fort Knox to small reserve centers in Puerto Rico. They all stand in use today as a testament to your abilities to plan, design and construct. Katherine Hammack, the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment said, "BRAC has resulted not only in greater effectiveness and ef-

iciency, but also in significant economic opportunities for the states in which our installations and facilities are located." These projects provided civilian engineering and construction jobs for thousands. They lift morale and help provide top-notch training opportunities to prepare our young men and women to stay alert as they enter the most dangerous environments overseas. We need to remember how we contribute to our Soldiers' health and safety.

I am delighted to announce that the Louisville District was selected for the 2011 Air Force Agent Award for Design through Construction. This is the third time in the last four years that our project teams supporting Wright Patterson, Scott Air Force Base, and the Air Force Reserve have had the prestige of this selection. It is awarded by the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment for success in meeting milestones, controlling cost and schedule growth, and innovative design and construction techniques. Hats off to the entire team!

Larry Drane from construction division is right now managing the construction of a \$30 million Army training center in Afghanistan. Once completed, the center will facilitate the training of thousands of Afghan Army volunteers. Multiply Larry's work by the 25 other volunteers from this district currently serving and the 21 others who have volunteered and are awaiting



Col. Luke T. Leonard
Commander and District Engineer
Louisville District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

orders and you can see that we – this wonderful little district – are strategic players in the success of our mission there and in the security of this country. Let's please remember those that are serving and volunteering overseas. Their dedication, spirit of adventure and personal sacrifices are humbling.

Here's to a successful FY12!

Building Strong,
 Luke

Falls City Engineer

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District Commander

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On the cover: *The record-breaking Army Reserve Support Team furniture squad.*

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Championship season for furniture team



The record-breaking Army Reserve Support Team furniture squad includes (left to right) Jared Korfhage, Barbara Pfister, Brandon Meyer, Bob Harris, Radka Lindquist, Richard Manley and Candace Cornette Milligan. Not shown: Brian Cash, Kay Matheney, Shanna Miller and Annette Mode.

Jon Fleshman

By Jon Fleshman, planning, programs and project management

The Army Reserve Support Team's customer-focused furniture squad had a championship season in FY11 by racking up its record number of contract awards with the highest dollar value since the program began in 1997.

"Members of the Louisville District furniture procurement program awarded contracts for 51 furniture projects worth close to \$36 million between Oct. 1, 2010

Members of the record-breaking Louisville District Army Reserve Support Team furniture product delivery team are:

- Brian Cash
- Bob Harris
- Jared Korfhage
- Radka Lindquist
- Richard Manley
- Kay Matheney
- Brandon Meyer
- Shanna Miller
- Annette Mode
- Barbara Pfister
- Candace Cornette Milligan (contractor)

and Sept. 30, 2011," said Joe Gates, chief of the special programs section, Army Reserve Support Branch, for the Louisville District. "The key to their success is a process that goes far beyond the simple purchase of furniture. It includes getting the best value from an array of suppliers, coordinating and managing the timing of delivery and installation that is integrated into the construction contract, working the punch list to quickly resolve furniture package deficiencies, and actively involving the customer and vendor in final inspections."

Bob Harris, the team's project engineer and unofficial historian, has been with the program from the beginning when the RST furniture team comprised only himself and Gates, with support from engineering, contracting, construction and resource management divisions. He said the recent rise in numbers reflects the team's successful support of the Louisville District's Base Realignment and Closure construction mission that began in fiscal year 2008. That year seven BRAC furniture projects were awarded; then nine the following year, 25 in FY10 and 32 in FY11, or almost 63 percent of the total furniture contracts awarded.

"The normal Army Reserve training center package consists of furnishings from 10 to 14 vendors for a total from \$400,000 to \$800,000," Harris said. "The

value of furniture packages for many of the larger Armed Forces Reserve Centers constructed for BRAC was well over \$1 million."

The largest package to date, according to Harris, was almost \$4.7 million for the Moffett Field, Calif., regional support command headquarters.

"The strength of this team lies in its dedication to providing Soldiers with the highest quality of service and furniture that will allow them to complete their mission," said Tony Yeldell, chief of construction for the Army Reserve Installation Management Directorate. "The Louisville District Furniture Team has continued to coordinate the procurement of each project's furniture and ensure timely delivery and installation. All of this work is done with relatively few errors and has not impacted the scheduled delivery of any project."

Before the program came to the Louisville District, Gates recounted, a new building would get finished but the furniture wouldn't show up for three to six months. And when it did, troops were used to unload the trucks and put together the work stations. The Army wanted a turnkey program that took care of design, orders, installation, punch list and warranty requirements.

Quality was also an issue. As mandated (Continues on Page 4)

by Congress, 100 percent of the furniture came from the Federal Prison Industries, known as UNICOR, Harris explained. Once Congress began discussing doing away with the furniture monopoly, UNICOR became amenable to upgrading its own operation and now the district has a solid relationship with the industry.

“Product and service both greatly improved,” said Barbara Pfister, the project manager for the furniture team. “In the area of design as well as the furniture itself.”

In recent years the high volume and tight deadlines of BRAC design-build projects brought their own challenges to the team’s interior designers who perform technical reviews, Pfister said. Radka Lindquist and Richard Manley, and the contracting firm of Mason and Hanger, have spent a significant effort bringing furniture packages to a quality suitable for award, she said, emphasizing that a lot of effort and vigilance was required to meet specifications for BRAC furniture projects.

Quality assurance is just one of the areas of the process to which team member Lindquist lends her expertise as an interior designer. She stressed the importance of communicating the Army Reserve requirements to the architect-engineer community by providing the latest standards and guidance throughout the design phase to ensure Soldiers get a quality product.

“I also perform technical reviews to make sure all the furniture is accounted for, scrutinize drawings to ensure furniture, electrical and telecommunications plans are compatible and compile price quotes and quantities for the project engineer to take to contracting,” Lindquist said.

Contracting is one of the district’s workhorse divisions supporting the furniture team and the servicing section is headed up by Lisa Bisig.

“The biggest challenge for contracting is the sheer volume of purchases and the frequent modifications due to schedule slips during construction,” Bisig explained. “It’s common for contracting to have more than 50 furniture related actions to process at any given time.”

Once the contracts have been awarded, post-award managers like Shanna Miller move front and center to tackle the administrative details.

“My duties include coordination and facilitation of the pre-installation furniture portion of the Red Zone meeting, track-



While vendor representative Bob Manley (right) checks the work-station assembly, Corps of Engineers furniture team post-award manager Brandon Meyer (left) and Sgt. 1st Class Valarie Jackson inspect connector parts for the furniture being installed in her office at the 100th Division Training Center on Fort Knox, Ky.

ing and verifying schedules, dealing with scheduling issues and slips, assisting with small business coordination, quality assistance and control for information input into databases, handling issues during the furniture installation, following up corrective actions and coordinating furniture project closeout,” Miller said.

She also serves as the liaison between the furniture team, the furniture installers, the district’s construction management office, the geographic construction project engineer and the general contractor.

To deal with an average of 10 contract actions per project —more than a total of 500 for FY11 —the furniture team has developed a delivery process and a culture of sharing and support that incorporates many of its own initiatives. At the weekly Tuesday morning team meeting, for example, members review detailed, color-coded progress reports from a database known as ARSFuD that was the brainchild of team member Brandon Meyer. The homegrown program’s acronym stands for Army Reserve Support Furniture Database.

“I created the installation progress report to give us a snapshot look at projects starting installation within the last 60 days, as well as a look-ahead to those remaining in the current fiscal year and those for the next FY,” explained Meyer, who started with the district as a student and worked his way up to post-award manager.

“I handle all furniture-related issues that happen once contracts have been awarded for a given project. My secondary role is ‘techno guru’ where I help advance and modernize the furniture program

technically.”

In addition to ARSFuD, Brandon said he has helped develop a furniture access database and he’s working on creating CAD-based applets to increase the speed of technical reviews and the creation of furniture, fixture and equipment packages.

Gates said other key procurement process initiatives that benefit customers include:

- a furniture advisory committee with representatives from the Army Reserves, the Corps and interior designers from industry;
- an Army Reserve Design Guide;
- a comprehensive interior design requirements document;
- lead vendor responsibility for the entire furniture package;
- the pre-installation meeting as part of the overall Red Zone (80 percent completion) construction meeting; and,
- a formal punch inspection with detail of deficiencies and required corrective action.

One of the strongest endorsements yet of the team’s business model came recently when a major Army Reserve customer was asked about considering another source for furniture procurement.

“We have been using LRL’s furniture team for many years to deliver furniture to our projects, and there is no way I would even consider changing our delivery method, because LRL’s team consistently does an outstanding job,” replied Eric Loughner, deputy chief of the Army Reserve Installation Management Directorate.

Louisville District closes out six-year BRAC program

Green roof construction at Middletown Armed Forces Reserve Center in Middletown, Conn.

By Ken Beyer, public affairs

September 15, 2011 marked the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure program milestone for all affected military units to have moved from the closing installation and begin operations in the receiving installation, an \$18 billion investment in the Army's infrastructure that was three times more than all four previous Army BRAC rounds combined and 47 percent of the entire Department of Defense BRAC 05 budget.

For the Army Corps' Louisville District, it meant successfully having the facilities ready for occupancy for 114 of 123 BRAC military construction projects assigned to the district on time and on target.

"The work accomplished by the men and women of this district the past six years is inspiring," said Col. Luke Leonard, Louisville District commander. "The dedication and teamwork exhibited by our

realty specialists, engineers, project managers and contractors allowed the district to overcome some tremendous challenges while providing Soldiers with state-of-the-art training facilities."

There were no "last minute" slips of projects missing the BRAC deadline. The nine remaining projects being completed after Sept. 15 had a variety of problem areas that were known for months, giving the Louisville District and its customers time to incorporate mitigation strategies that allowed the Army and Air Force to still meet BRAC law requirements on time and on target for all 123 projects.

"It was a tough job, and as a team, we worked well together and did our best," said Darrell Nation, deputy chief, planning, programs and project management division. "The work accomplished by the district is being recognized at every level of the Army and Department of Defense."

"The work accomplished by the men and women of this district the past six years is inspiring."

-Col. Luke Leonard
Louisville District Commander

As part of the BRAC process, the Army made a deliberate decision to have new buildings constructed in accordance with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. All of the projects delivered by the Louisville District met LEED Silver criteria with five projects being certified LEED Gold.

Simply put, Louisville District's 2005 BRAC program had several outstanding achievements. Some include the following:

The Human Resource Center of Excellence, built on Fort Knox, Ky., is the largest office building in the Commonwealth; the Human Performance Wing (completed several months early), the Sensors Laboratory and several other BRAC projects on Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, comprise the largest construction program on the base since World War II; the Middletown, Conn., Armed Forces Reserve Center has the first partial green roof installed on a reserve center; and the parking garage, built with the eight-story administration building (both completed several months early), at Detroit Arsenal, Mich. — one of the very few parking garages built for the Army — solving a tremendous parking problem for this tiny installation.



The \$22 million Armed Forces Reserve Center in Vancouver, Wash., was completed July 31, 2011. The 104,000 sq. ft. training facility accommodates 800 people.

Big boat; bigger mission



The Motor Vessel Mississippi locks through the Kentucky Lock from Paducah to pick up members of the Mississippi River Commission and guests, Aug., 11 after touring the Barkley Power Plant and the Kentucky Lock Project.

By John Neville, public affairs

The Motor Vessel Mississippi V (MVM) is the largest towboat in America. The 241-foot long, 6,300 horsepower behemoth was commissioned in 1993. As the name states, four other Mississippi vessels came before number five. The first, powered by steam, came along in 1882. All of them have witnessed the protection and development of the Lower Mississippi Valley, and have seen the valley change from a mostly undeveloped and flood-ravaged wilderness to one of the world's leading agricultural and industrial areas.

The vessel serves two functions. During the construction season, it is used to meet the towing needs of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. During the traditional high-water and low-water seasons each



Carol Labashosky

More than 200 people toured the Corps' largest tow boat Aug. 13. The public were also invited to visit the boat in Cincinnati where more than 175 came aboard Aug. 8.

spring and summer, the members of the Mississippi River Commission (MRC) board the MVM to conduct inspection trips and public meetings at various locations along the Mississippi and its tributaries. It is the vehicle that enables members of the public to bring their views and concerns before the MRC and engage in dialogue with its members.

The Mississippi River Commission was created by Congress June 28, 1879. The commission is composed of seven people nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate. Three members are officers of the Corps of Engineers, one of whom is the commission's president. Another member is from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration. Three are civilians, two of whom are civil engineers.

General duties of the commission include recommendation of policy and work programs, the study of and reporting upon the need for modifications or additions to flood control and navigation projects, recommendation upon any matters authorized by law, and making semi-annual inspection trips. The duties of the commission include the entire length of the Mississippi River from its headwaters at Lake Itasca, Minn., to Head of Passes, La., where the Mississippi River empties into the Gulf of Mexico. Its inspection covers the river's tributaries as well, including the Ohio River.



Carol Labashosky

Members of the public tour the vessel pilot house in Paducah.

This year, the MVM stopped in along the riverfront in downtown Cincinnati Aug. 8, and then again along the riverfront at Paducah, Ky., Aug. 13. She docked for two hours at each location while the public was given the opportunity to board the boat for a tour. Visitors were allowed to view all four levels of the MVM, including the pilot house, conference and hearing rooms, the engine room and the kitchen.

"That is one very special boat," said Robert Eglin, a visitor at the Paducah stop. "I would like to see the Corps show it off more to the public, like it is today."

Surveyors chase elusive nine-foot depth



Chris Bennett

All three of the navigation team's survey boats are loaded with survey equipment that allows them to scan the river floor.

By John Neville, public affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been surveying the Ohio River navigation channel for about 200 years.

However, the methods and capabilities have changed dramatically since then, especially when it comes to surveying the bottom of the Ohio.

"It's like going from lead on a string to high definition digital technology," said Louisville District Navigation and Dredging Team Leader Barry Vessels.

Louisville's navigation team uses the sophisticated software package HYPACK with satellite location correction features to record accurate data of navigation channel conditions.

The navigation team begins surveying as the river enters the low-water season, usually in May, and continues until the river begins to rise in the fall. During the low-water season, what goes on beneath the surface is more critical, according to hydrographic survey field supervisor Jim Scherzinger. Tows and barges typically draft nine-feet or more, making them more vulnerable to sediment shifts. Water levels also affect the current speed.

"When the river is high, the river is running fast, and it's keeping the sediment moving," Scherzinger said. "Nothing is really settling."

So how does the navigation team survey the river bed?

There are three survey boats in the team's inventory. The boats are fitted with various sonar units that send signals toward the river floor. A multi-beam sonar can project hundreds of signals per second collecting millions of three dimensional datum in a short time with a signal similar to an ultra-sound. The HYPACK software collects and processes the data. Scherzing-

er and fellow navigation teammates then edit the data to come up with a final three dimensional mapping of the surveyed area.

The team is responsible for maintaining the nine-foot depth required by tow boats moving commercial goods on the river today. The team contracts for dredging operations at locations where the depth of the river is below, at, or near nine feet.

While trouble spots can sprout up anywhere along the Ohio, the team has consistently conducted surveying and dredging operations at the confluence of the Wabash and Ohio rivers during the last several years, according to surveyor pilot George Fletcher. During some high-water events, the rate of flow of the Wabash, which sits in a 20,480 square-mile watershed, can be greater than the Ohio River's. This stronger force moving into the weaker flow of the Ohio significantly changes its river bed. This change alters the navigation channel within the area. The navigation crew and survey boats, armed with sonar and HYPACK software, determine just how much sediment has accumulated and where the problem areas are before the dredge is moved in to remove the channel blockage.

This dynamic confluence of rivers is an example of a location where the Coast Guard has to mark the navigable channel with buoys to indicate navigation depth. The key to marking the line between a good channel and shallow conditions is knowing where to place the buoys. The Coast Guard doesn't use HYPACK. Instead, it uses a system that is not as accurate, especially for the flux of inland waterways.

When the district's navigation team surveys, they always locate buoys to see if

the buoys were placed properly. Often, the unsuitable computer program and rapidly changing conditions in the riverbed resulted in inaccurately placed buoys, Vessels said.

Such inaccuracies can result in tows and barges running aground, and when that happens, "They have a tendency to rev their engines creating humps in the riverbed. If you get a couple of groundings, you have to close the channel and that requires emergency dredging, which can cost us at least \$500,000 per dredge area," Vessels said.

To minimize the loss of money and time, Vessels developed a system that allows the Coast Guard to use the surveying maps developed by his team and accurately place the navigation buoys, and it has been paying off.

"While Coast Guard River Tenders use Army Corps surveys to verify proper buoy placement during routine conditions, we especially rely on them during emergency

(Continues on Page 8)



John Neville

Louisville District navigation team members: (from left) hydrographic survey field supervisor Jim Scherzinger, surveyor and pilot George Fletcher, and surveyor and pilot Chris Bennett stand in front of one of three surveying boats in the navigation team's inventory.

waterways situations,” said Commander Doug Simpson with the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Ohio Valley. “The past two years saw significant shoaling events at the mouth of the Wabash River, effectively cutting the Ohio River in half. Army Corps surveys found navigable passage through the shoaling, allowing our cutters to place buoys safely and efficiently. This Army Corps-Coast Guard collaboration quickly provided a means of safe passage for commerce under what otherwise would have been nearly impossible navigating conditions.”

The Markland gate failure in September 2009 is another example illustrating the effectiveness of the navigation team’s hydrological surveying skills. The river was shut down for several days after the gate fell. When barge traffic began moving, the tows had to be broken apart and locked through the auxiliary 600-foot lock chamber until the repaired gate was put back up March 1. The towing industry lost millions. But, it could have been much worse.

Fortunately, the failed gate was repairable; otherwise the emergency order for a new gate would’ve been very expensive and taken much longer than a repair to the old gate, Vessels said.

The navigation team was able to determine if the gate was repairable while the gate was still under water. With their



John Neville

Louisville District navigation field supervisor Jim Scherzinger edits data collected during a hydrological survey of a section of the Ohio River. The surveys analyze depth of the river so that a consistent nine-foot pool of water can be maintained for navigation. Sediment collects in different areas during low-water season, and these obstructions can block navigation.

surveying equipment and HYPACK software, they were able to determine the exact location of the gate and determine if a bulkhead could be set to begin the repair process. This also allowed them to determine how to move the gate and to analyze the survey data three dimensionally to determine if the gate was warped.

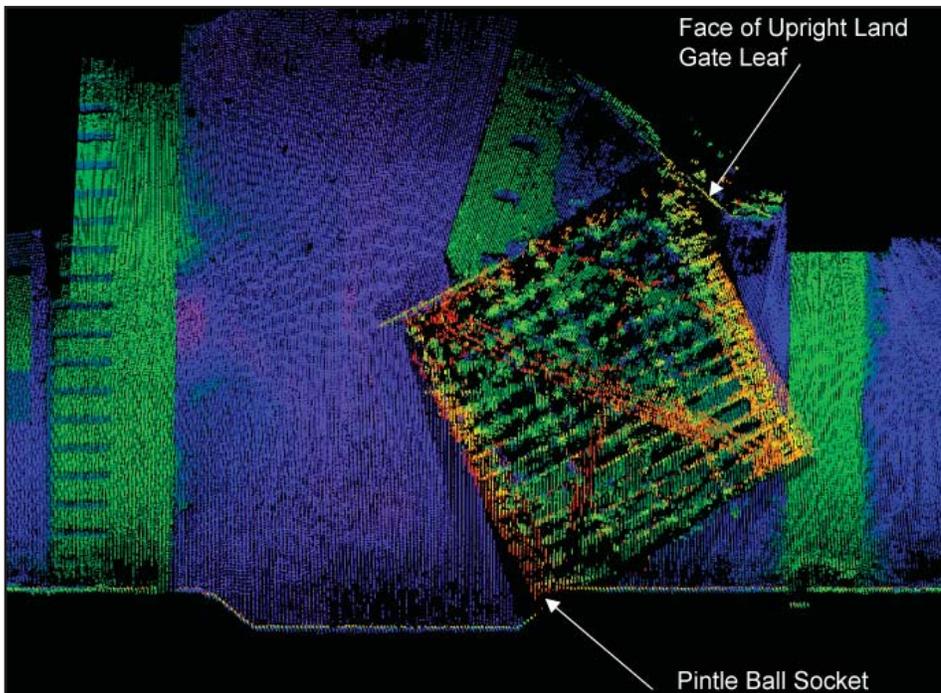
“If the gate was warped, the district would’ve had to execute an emergency contract modification to quicken an existing contract to build new gates, but we

were about to determine that it wasn’t warped, the gate could be recovered, repaired and put it back in place,” Vessels said.

The successes of the team’s surveying efforts led them to enter some of their work into a HYPACK-sponsored international contest. The HYPACK Corporation began holding bi-monthly Screen Capture contests in April 2011. The navigation team sent in entries for the first and third rounds (rounds are held every two months). Contest entries are judged on the editing quality of the surveying data and how much the final edited product helped to solve the underwater problem.

The team won in the first round with the three dimensional image of the Markland gate screen, and then won again in the third round with an image of Lock 53.

“Editing the data is the hard part,” said Vessels. “Editing survey data requires considerable skill and experience. Editing of the Markland data to solve that problem was spectacular. That was the very first contest HYPACK held worldwide. Companies in the Netherlands are world leaders in this field, and we beat them. There were over 75 worldwide entries and it was the very first contest, you probably had everybody investing everything in that round. It was a team effort. You have to do things right in the field to be able to come back and get things right on paper afterwards. My team is probably one of the top in inland waterways teams.”



Courtesy of Navigation and Dredging Team

A sonar image of the submerged miter gate at Markland Locks and Dam. The team’s sonar images from Markland helped to win the navigation team first place in the HYPACK Screen Capture Contest. The Louisville team beat out more than 75 entries worldwide.

Disaster recovery:

Corps employees clean up after Hurricane Irene

By Katie Newton, public affairs

After Hurricane Irene ravaged the eastern coast of the United States in August, the Corps' Louisville District debris team was called to action in the Big Apple.

Seven members of the Louisville District Debris Planning and Response Team (PRT) deployed to New York City August 28 with the mission of providing technical assistance to local government entities affected by the hurricane throughout the state of New York. The team later moved to Albany, N.Y., to be closer to the more severely damaged areas.

Employees include PRT Resident Engineer Ben Finn, construction division; Crystal May, contracting division; Nat Peters, engineering division; Chris Alvey, engineering division; Tracey Keel, operations division; Larry Kelley, engineering division and Kevin Jasper, project management division, who serves as the action officer for the PRT.

The team provides technical assistance by providing guidance and training to local governmental entities on how to manage their debris removal efforts to comply with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regulations.

"We have visited at least 10 counties



Shown in front of the New York City Federal Building, (left to right), is Ben Finn, construction division; Crystal May, contracting division; Nat Peters, engineering division and Chris Alvey, engineering division. The group deployed to the Big Apple to aid in the cleanup of debris left behind by Hurricane Irene.

and assisted local government officials with addressing their debris problems," said PRT Resident Engineer Ben Finn, "We have also assessed the extent of damage and debris in area streams."

Finn says the devastation in the small towns in Eastern New York is tremendous. The flooding is some of the worst I've ever seen," said Finn. The violent force of the Catskill Mountain streams was extremely destructive to small communities throughout the region."



Planning and Response Team Resident Engineer Ben Finn prepares to board a New York State Police helicopter to assess flood damage in the surrounding areas.



Kevin Jasper, planning, programs and project management division, works from his desk in Albany, N.Y., as the debris team action officer. Jasper is one of seven Louisville District employees who stepped up to help with the East Coast cleanup.

Chris Gardner, New York District

Draper promoted to Lieutenant Colonel

Newly promoted Lt. Col. Derek Draper, Louisville District contracting, received his promotion during a ceremony Oct. 6. Draper was promoted by Brig. Gen. Ted Harrison, deputy director, National Contracting Organization, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"The selection process for Lieutenant Colonel is not an easy one, but Derek received many fine recommendations. Our expectation, trust and confidence is that he will do well," said Harrison.

Draper noted how he found it interesting that he enlisted through the Louisville Entrance Processing Station in this very building where he received his new promotion. "My success was due to mentors, luck and hard work. The common thread is that people, put other people —like me — first, before themselves," Draper said.



Debra Hunter



Lock and dam staff help wounded warriors experience thrill of diving

By Carol Labashosky, public affairs

In August, Army Corps of Engineers divers Eric Barnett, Lock 52 operator, and Luther Helland, Lock 52 repairman, had the unique opportunity to share their special skill set with disabled veterans assisting them to dive as part of the Veterans Administration hospital in southern Illinois and Dive Heart Foundation therapy program. The group was part of the Wounded Warrior program. The Corps staff volunteered in their off-duty time to assist with the dive.

The veterans —Soldiers or Marines—who served in Iraq suffered from various impairments or injuries such as sight, brain or post traumatic stress syndrome.

The dive occurred in approximately 40 feet of water at Mermit Springs, Ill. “The water is clear with a green tint, and you can see a lot better than the river,” said Barnett. “The dive for the vets builds a lot of self-esteem and confidence.”

Barnett pointed out that diving and swimming creates a whole new environment for the disabled who use wheelchairs. “The water has zero gravity, and the vets then have more of a full range of motion in water.” Barnett and fellow diver Helland are veterans themselves who can relate to the war experiences their charges faced.

More than 25 individuals or “buddies” came out to assist the veterans who dove. It takes three or four assistants to escort one special needs diver below the surface for safety purposes.

Barnett and Helland dive frequently at Lock and Dam 52, are credentialed and have extensive experience. They recently just executed dives on-site for the wicket dam.

For more information on the therapeutic dive program for Wounded Warriors,

visit diveheart.org

Their slogan is “making possibilities for disabilities.”

Barnett said he would definitely consider assisting again, and that, in addition, he thought Mermit Springs was a pretty neat place to go. “We had sunny weather and a great day,” he said.

The dive took place Aug. 13. Lockmaster Randy Robertson helped to coordinate the dive.



Corps of Engineers divers Eric Barnett and Luther Helland (pictured above) volunteered with Dive Heart Foundation to assist wounded veterans with a therapeutic dive at Mermit Springs, Ill., Aug. 13.

Foreign leaders visit McAlpine Locks and Dam

By Carol Labashosky, public affairs

A contingent of navigation industry leaders from Japan visited the Army Corps of Engineers McAlpine Locks and Dam as part of their Louisville, Ky., visit Aug. 30. The delegation represented industries such as Japan Oilseed Processors Association, Nisshin Oillio Group, J-Oil Mills Inc., Showa Sangyo Co., Riken Nosan Kako Co., Japan Oil & Fat Importers and Exporters Association, Mitsui & Co. Ltd., Mitsubishi Corporation, Itochu Corporation, Marubeni Corporation, Sumitomo Corporation and Sojitz Corporation. U.S Soybean Export Council via the Kentucky Soybean Board set up the visit. McAlpine Lockmaster Bob Azinger led the group.



Social media training tackles changing landscape of communication

By Katie Newton, public affairs

If Facebook were a country, it would be the world's third largest, according to the YouTube video Social Media Revolution 3 created by Erik Qualman.

With that stat in mind, the Louisville District decided it was time to take charge in the ever-changing world of social media and hosted social media training in Louisville, Ky., for the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division.

The training, which was held at the Marriott Downtown in August, featured an array of speakers who educated attendees on social media principles, techniques and the latest trends. Topics ranged from Twitter Basics 101 to security concerns.

Rough River Lake Manager Diane Stratton, whose Facebook page has more than 13,000 fans, felt the training was very helpful for all involved.

"It enabled participants and presenters to share ideas on how social media has been used, and can be used, as a tool to spread our mission message," said Stratton. "Learning how to keep the public informed about current issues, events and policies that may affect them was very useful," said Stratton.

Other guest speakers included local WAVE 3 meteorologists, Kevin Harned and Brian Goode; Jack Holt, APR LLC; General Electric social media gurus Wendy Brown and Lauren Whitsell; and Erin McMahon, creative manager at Metro United Way.

"Regardless of how you personally feel about social media it is a part of our lives and it's the avenue that our customers are



Dana Clark, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters social media director (left) and Don Walker, Louisville District emergency operations manager, stress the importance of security when operating social media sites.

using to get information about our agency and our projects," said Stratton.

Denise Rouse, Louisville District Recreation Team Leader, seconds that sentiment. "Actively embracing social media is a must in our current environment, especially given budgetary constraints and limited staffing at our lakes and locks and dam projects," said Rouse. "This communications tool has already demonstrated a positive new functionary role that our customer base of more than 18 million annual visitors expect."

Sarah Mattingly, Louisville District Social Media Manager, believes the two-day event provided a constructive learning environment and helped to change attitudes of those who had doubts about social media.

"There is still a contingent within the Corps that views social media as being out of our realm," said Mattingly. "The fact is, if we want to adequately inform the members of our communities, we have to be engaged in social media. It's not enough to simply put out a press release anymore and hope it gets picked up in a timely manner."

Public Affairs Specialist Jon Fleshman said the training gave a variety of excellent examples of how social media can be

used to benefit the Corps' customers.

"I was always a believer, not because I use it regularly, but because other people use it—a lot of other people," said Fleshman.

The Louisville District launched its social media program in January 2009 in an effort to reach a broader audience. Today, the district's social media sites reach more than 16,000 people directly, and thousands more indirectly.



WAVE 3 meteorologists, Kevin Harned (left) and Brian Goode tell conference participants how the local media uses social media during severe weather situations as part of social media training in Louisville August 30-31.



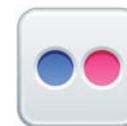
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DiNatale presented with Keystone Award

By Karla Marshall, Afghanistan Engineer District-South



Karla Marshall

Louisville District paralegal Louis DiNatale was recognized with the USACE Chief Counsel's Keystone Award for his outstanding professional work in the district's office of counsel. DiNatale was recognized while serving overseas during a deployment in Afghanistan Engineer District-South.

Louis DiNatale, paralegal in the Louisville District Office of Counsel, just returned from a deployment in Afghanistan Engineer District-South. While serving overseas he was awarded the Army Corps of Engineers Chief Counsel's Keystone Award for outstanding para professional service.

The Keystone Award recognizes the professionalism and indispensable role non-attorneys perform in the successful accomplishment of the Corps' legal services mission. DiNatale is recognized for his extraordinary work with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) program in the Louisville District.

In December 2009, DiNatale started his civilian employment with USACE after leaving a 24-year career with the U.S. Army. His first major task was to reduce the Louisville District's FOIA request backlog by 10 percent. With his co-work-

ers, not only did they accomplish that task, but through the implementation of a new program the entire backlog was gone in just seven months.

"The program works and is still keeping pace with the FOIA requests at the Louisville District," said DiNatale. "Once I got the program on track, I went to other organizations to explain our process. I briefed our process to the (U.S.) Departments of Justice and Transportation, to the Internal Revenue Service and others."

"I had no idea that my performance was on that level. I just did what I thought needed to be done and I'm just grateful that the Louisville District Counsel, Janice Lengel, nominated me," DiNatale concluded.

DiNatale concluded his deployment Aug. 27, to resume his paralegal position in Louisville.

Fry is 'Bulldog of the Week' in Afghanistan

By Brenda Beasley, Afghanistan Engineer District-South

Quality mixed with urgency creates win-win for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Afghanistan Engineer District-South project completion. Project Engineer Eric Fry balanced quality requirements with urgency in addressing design reviews and earned recognition as "Bulldog of the Week" for Oct. 9-15. Deployed from the Corps' Louisville District, Fry's efforts allowed work to begin on a wastewater treatment plant in Tarin Kowt, Uruzgan province, alleviating a base-wide problem with black water disposal.

As a project engineer for five military construction projects at Tarin Kowt, Fry skillfully led his team through negotiations to award a modification to correct a significant drainage problem with the new runway. Using his technical expertise, he also provided justification to answer questions raised by a Defense Contract Audit Agency audit report, which allowed a long-overdue modification issue to be settled.

"Eric Fry exemplifies tenacity," said U.S. Air Force Col. Benjamin Wham, district commander. "As a direct result of his

efforts, we moved ahead with our mission to provide sustainable development for the people of Afghanistan. The district is a better place with him on the team."

Selecting a mascot to represent the district means identifying the attributes of our team members who make the South

District a great place to work. "The bulldog naturally comes to mind as it is loyal, friendly, determined and resilient," said Wham. "The bulldog has been a symbol of courage and strength for many years and our district is comprised of many such men and women."



Brenda Beasley

Bulldog of the Week Eric Fry, center, receives a small, stuffed bulldog, as an emblem of his tenacity from District Commander Air Force Col. Benjamin Wham, left. Command Sgt. Maj. Lorne Quebo-deaux, right, looks on.

Milling Machine at Markland

Q & A's with Structural Engineer Josh Nickel



By Carol Labashosky, public affairs

The Louisville District Army Corps of Engineers used an innovative piece of equipment, a portable milling machine, to mill the quoins on the 1,200 foot Markland lock chamber in September at Warsaw, Ky. The quoins are 3-1/2 inches deep, 10 inches wide and run the length of the 70-foot lock wall, and keep water from leaking into the lock when the gates close. Through the Corps' conceptualization, Climax Portable Machine Tools, Inc. was contracted to create a custom-made vertical milling machine that would allow machinists to mill or machine the quoins in place. The machine travels up more than 20 feet removing metal over several passes. This method proved to be more efficient and less time consuming than traditional means, enabling the Army Corps machinists to complete the task within 14 days translating to fewer delays for industry in the long run.

Corps personnel, Josh Nickel, Richard Nichols, Larry Kelley, Gerard Edelen, George Flickner, Larry Bibelhauser, Kevin Vessels, Craig Moulton and the Louisville Repair Station all contributed to the endeavor.



Josh Nickel, structural engineer, took a few minutes out of his busy schedule to provide answers to some of the frequently asked questions about the milling machine being used at Markland Locks and Dam.

Q: What was the most challenging aspect of the work—in procuring the machine, having to wait for it, learning how to use it?

A: Procuring the machine was very challenging because I had to write a technical scope for a machine that previously did not exist. Although some of the technology was in place, we had to also push it along to get such a sophisticated machine. Beyond that, it had to work universally at all of our locks. The scope not only included the design of this innovative machine, but also included proof testing, training and full scale testing with onsite support. Learning how to use it was also challenging, however we worked jointly with the contractor to provide a control system that nearly anyone could use.

Q: Would you recommend others use this milling process for Corps locks?

A: Absolutely. This is such an incredible asset we now have. The fact that it rehabilitates a critical component in the normal operation of our locks in such a short time is not only valuable to us but also to our customer and industry.

Q: How would you say the contractor and Corps personnel worked as a team to mill the quoins?

A: I would like to highlight the two different topics in developing and then milling on site.

Designing - The contractor was great to work with. We were able to work hand-in-hand during the design to ensure that we had all our requirements and concerns addressed and incorporated.

Milling - Having the contractor on site for the milling operation was a must because of the complexity of the machine itself. Contractors were able to help troubleshoot machine issues as they arose and helped to ensure the project schedule. Our personnel were very pleased with the contractor's involvement. The contractor was extremely pleased at our willingness to work through issues, I personally feel that it really was more of a partnership than a contract and all involved helped in the success.



National Public Lands Day



More than 150 volunteers supported National Public Lands Day at Taylorsville Lake in Taylorsville, Ky. National Public Lands Day is the largest single-day volunteer effort for public lands in the United States.

By Sarah Mattingly, public affairs

On Saturday, Sept. 24, approximately 180,000 volunteers around the country participated in National Public Lands Day (NPLD) events at more than 2,000 sites, making it the largest single-day volunteer effort for public lands in the United States.

Some of those events took place right here in the Louisville District where residents turned out to celebrate, replenish and restore their favorite public recreation lands and facilities.

Barren River Lake in Glasgow, Ky., held its 24th annual Trashmaster's Classic Lakeshore Cleanup at which 392 volunteers collected 915 bags of trash, 162 tires and 22 boats.

"It's incredible what our volunteers can accomplish in just a few hours," said Park Ranger Alicia Cannon. "Most of the garbage was picked up during just a four-hour time span.

It really makes the coordination effort worthwhile when you see these kinds of results."

At Nolin River Lake in Bee Spring, Ky., 166 volunteers picked up trash, trimmed trees in recreation areas, built fences and worked on trail maintenance and construction. Moutardier, Wax, and Ponderosa marinas donated pontoons to transport volunteers for trash pickup around the lake, where they collected 3,600 pounds of trash.

"This was the most successful cleanup and work day that Nolin has ever seen," said Park Ranger Danielle Treadway. "We'd like to thank everyone who donated to or participated in the events at Nolin Lake."

Taylorsville Lake in Taylorsville, Ky., had 155 participants who collected about 45 cubic yards of trash and 29 tires, in spite of rainy conditions.

Other NPLD events around the district included collecting native prairie flower

seeds at C.J. Brown Dam and Reservoir in Springfield, Ohio; tagging monarch butterflies at Brookville Lake, Brookville, Ind.; refurbishing picnic sites and trail bed at Buckhorn Lake, Buckhorn, Ky., Caesar Creek Lake's annual 24-hour BioBlitz, Waynesville, Ohio, and trash pickup at Patoka Lake in Dubois, Ind., Green River Lake in Campbellsville, Ky., and Rough River Lake in Falls of Rough, Ky.



Courtesy of David Geiger Jr.

(Left to right) Bill Temple, David Geiger Sr., John Heis and Lane Heis all pitched in their helping hands to clean up the southeastern shoreline of Brookville Lake.



Restoration of Flag Island at Nolin River Lake. A flag has flown over the small island since Sep. 11, 2001.



Following the cleanup at Barren River Lake, volunteers celebrated with music, food and a chance to win prizes donated from local businesses.



Volunteers clean up Cave Creek as part of the 2011 Trash Bash at Rough River Lake.

Workplace Safety

Tips for Making Your Section Safe

Source: *Engineer Safety Gram*, August 2011

When was the last time you took the time and effort to really inspect your facility with an eye trained on safety? Unsafe conditions and unsafe acts are both contributing factors in most accidents. Checking on unsafe conditions and unsafe acts should be routine for every supervisor.

Check the following for unsafe conditions:

- Floors and floor openings. Are floors in good condition, free of loose boards, protruding nails, splinters and irregularities? Are floor openings properly protected? Check floors to see if they are slippery. This is a major cause of falls.
- Aisles and passageways. Are aisles and passageways kept clear? Are they free of tripping hazards?
- Machines. Are belts, pulleys, gears, chains and sprockets guarded? Are effective point-of-operation guards in use? Is additional guarding needed?
- Hand tools. Are the right tools for the job used? Are tools in good condition? Are cutting edges sharp? Watch for mushroomed heads, split handles, and other defects.
- Housekeeping. Is the office clean and orderly?
- Storage of materials. Are materials and supplies properly piled — within recommended heights? Are flammable materials properly handled and stored?
- Electrical installations. Is electrical equipment, wiring and fusing up to standard? Are portable electrical tools grounded?
- Lighting. Is lighting in work and storage areas, passageways and stairways satisfactory? Check for burned out bulbs. Check light shades.
- Ventilation. Is there good general ventilation? Is there adequate local ventilation to control possible health hazards?
- Ladders. Are portable ladders of standard construction and in good condition? Are fixed ladders of standard construction and securely fastened?
- Fire extinguishers. Are enough fire extinguishers of the right type available and

easily accessible?

- Exit. Are emergency exits adequate in number and location, and properly identified?

Watch for the following unsafe acts among employees:

- Using equipment without authority
- Insecure or disorderly piling or arranging of material
- Operating equipment at unsafe speed
- Using defective tools or equipment
- Lifting improperly, or handling loads that are too heavy
- Using improper tools or using tools improperly
- Making guards or safety devices inoperative
- Failure to use personal protective equipment
- Horseplay

It's your job to know safety conditions in your area.



New faces and fond farewells

New July/August employees



Cecelia Carr
*Occupational Safety and
Health Specialist
Safety Office*



Bradley Dick
*Attorney-Advisor
Office of Counsel*



Julian Donahue
*Mechanical Engineer
Engineering Division*



Anthony Hite
*Industrial Hygienist
Safety Office*



Scott Kelly
*Environmental Engineer
Engineering Division*



Joshua Van Bogaert
*Environmental Engineer
Engineering Division*



Jay Wyss
*Civil Engineer
Engineering Division*

Not pictured:

*Sydney Armstrong, operations division
Mickey Awbrey, construction division
Ruby Brown, operations division
James Flood, operations division
Greg Gerding, planning, programs and project management
Adam Gohs, engineering division
Ronald Hall, operations division
Carl Laswell, operations division
Barbara Lollar, office of counsel
Jared Perrott, operations division
Michelle Rodrigue, engineering division
Gabriel Stodghill, operations division*

By the numbers

Louisville District totals

- 1,317 employees
- 17 Department of the Army interns
- 26 volunteers deployed

July/August retirements

*Michael Brown, operations division
Donald Casey, construction division
Henry Gusgeski Jr., operations division
Roger Hood, operations division
Brian Lorence, construction division
Arlyn McCormick, construction division
Connie Parks, construction division
Mary Stephenson, resource management office*

Ready for some football?

Time for kick-off! Tailgating season is here so stir up these recipes your team is sure to love.

Detroit Hot Honey Wings

Ingredients:

- 2 pounds chicken wings, tips discarded
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- salt and ground black pepper to taste
- 1 cup honey
- 1/2 cup butter, melted
- 1/2 cup hot sauce

Directions:

- Preheat an outdoor grill for medium heat and lightly oil grate.
- Wash the wings well and pat dry

with paper towel. Season the meat with cayenne, salt, and pepper.

Cook the chicken wings on preheated grill until cooked through and juices run clear, 20 to 30 minutes depending on the size of the wings. Brush the wings liberally using 1/2 cup of honey while they are cooking.

Melt the butter, pour into a large bowl and mix in the remaining 1/2 cup of honey and hot sauce. Remove the wings from the grill and immediately toss them in the hot honey-butter sauce

to coat. Serve the wings 'wet' or return them to the grill for 1 minute per side to set the sauce.



Seven Layer Taco Dip

Ingredients:

- 1 package taco seasoning mix
- 1 (16 oz) can refried beans
- 1 package cream cheese, softened
- 1 (16 oz) container sour cream
- 1 (16 oz) jar salsa
- 1 large tomato, chopped
- 1 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1 bunch chopped green onions
- 1 head iceberg lettuce, shredded
- 1 can sliced black olives, drained
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Directions:

In a medium bowl, blend the taco seasoning mix and refried beans. Spread the mixture onto a large serving platter, or in a dish.

Mix the sour cream and cream cheese in a medium bowl. Spread over the refried beans.

Top the layers with salsa. Place a layer of tomato, green pepper, green onions and lettuce over the salsa, and top with cheddar cheese.

Garnish with black olives.



Ultimate Chili

Ingredients:

- 1 pound lean ground beef
- salt and pepper to taste
- 3 (15 oz) cans kidney beans
- 3 (14.5 oz) cans stewed tomatoes
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 1 red bell pepper, chopped
- 1/4 cup red wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 dash Worcestershire sauce

1/2 cup red wine

Directions:

In a skillet over medium-high heat, cook ground beef until evenly browned. Drain off grease, and season to taste with salt and pepper.

In a slow cooker, combine the cooked beef, kidney beans, tomatoes, celery, red bell pepper and red wine vinegar. Season with chili powder, cumin, parsley, basil and Worcestershire sauce. Stir to distribute ingredients evenly.

Cook on high for 6 hours, or on low

for 8 hours. Pour in the wine during the last 2 hours.



Frequently Asked Questions

The Louisville District Public Affairs office receives many inquiries. Below is the answer to a question the district is often asked.

By Vanessa Whitworth, public affairs

Source: www.bookstore.gpo.gov

Q: Where/how can I purchase Ohio River navigational charts?

A: Ohio River navigational charts can be purchased through the Government Printing Office toll-free number 866-512-1800 or through their website at www.bookstore.gpo.gov.

There are three segment navigation charts for the entire Ohio River system:

Cairo, Ill., to Foster, Ky., is \$64. Foster,

Ky., to New Martinsville, W. Va., is \$55. New Martinsville, W. Va., to Pittsburgh, Penn., is \$29.50.

Shipping is free if standard shipping is selected.

For payment the Government Printing Office accepts VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discover.



Ohio River map of Paducah, Ky. These types of river navigation charts can be obtained through the Government Printing Office.

New miter gates placed at Markland

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville Repair Station set the second of two 260-ton gate leaves at the downstream end of the Ohio River Markland navigation lock Sept. 20.

“People don’t go around lifting that kind of weight every day,” said Keith Browning, Louisville Repair Station, who directs the Henry M. Shreve gatelifter vessel, lock repairs and crew at Markland. The installation of the new \$21.8 million gates will complete the Markland major rehabilitation project which began in 2009. The rehabilitated lock is scheduled to reopen Nov. 6.



Snapshot from the past



Farmers haul water from the Ohio River at Dover, Ky., August 12, 1930.

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**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Louisville District