

Janet Lee bids farewell to Corps after 34 years of government service

By Katie Newton, public affairs

After 34 years of federal government service Janet Lee is retiring from the Louisville District Planning, Programs, and Project Management Environmental Branch June 1.

Lee, who has been working her way up the Louisville District ladder for three decades, is currently a project management specialist in the Environmental Branch. After more than seven different jobs in four different offices, Lee has used her specialized experience to help her find the perfect fit.

“At first it seemed like a hindrance with all the moving around looking for opportunities for promotion,” she said, “but it really worked out in my favor to give me the expertise to move up. It worked out really well.”

As workloads decreased and things became more automated at the U.S. Census Bureau in 1983 Lee looked for new opportunities in Louisville. She first began her career in the Louisville District in the Engineering Division, Military Branch where she worked for 12 years. In both positions as a A/E selection clerk and a civil engineering technician she gained experience with contract selections and engineering processes. All that experience played a vital role in helping her to lateral into a procurement technician position with the Corps’ contracting division. After five years in contracting, Lee moved on to one of her most memorable positions during her career—a construction management assistant at the McAlpine Resident Office.

“It was really different,” said Lee. “You could look out the window and see the construction taking place. I was right there on the ground floor of it all. I really enjoyed that,” she said.

After four years in construction, Lee found herself moving yet again to the project management branch. There, she served as a budget analyst in the environmental section working with the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) program, Installation Restoration Program (IRP) program and various other types of funding.

This type of hands-on experience with contracts and funding helped set Lee up for position as a project management specialist supporting the Ravenna Army Ammunition Plant in Ravenna, Ohio.

“It has been rewarding working with all of the money aspects and working with the many different projects, and the project manager,” said Lee.

Ravenna Project Manager Glen Beckham is thankful to have Lee as part of that team. “Janet's tireless dedication to help others and her substantial contracting experience are tremendous assets to our Ravenna team,” he said. “Her friendly personality often helps us resolve conflicts.

Lee will miss the environmental team, the Ravenna Project Delivery Team and all the individuals she has worked with throughout the years. "It's all the people I will miss. You meet so many different people along your career and that's what keeps you working" she said.

After retirement Lee looks forward to spending more time with family, working on her photography and traveling with her husband.