



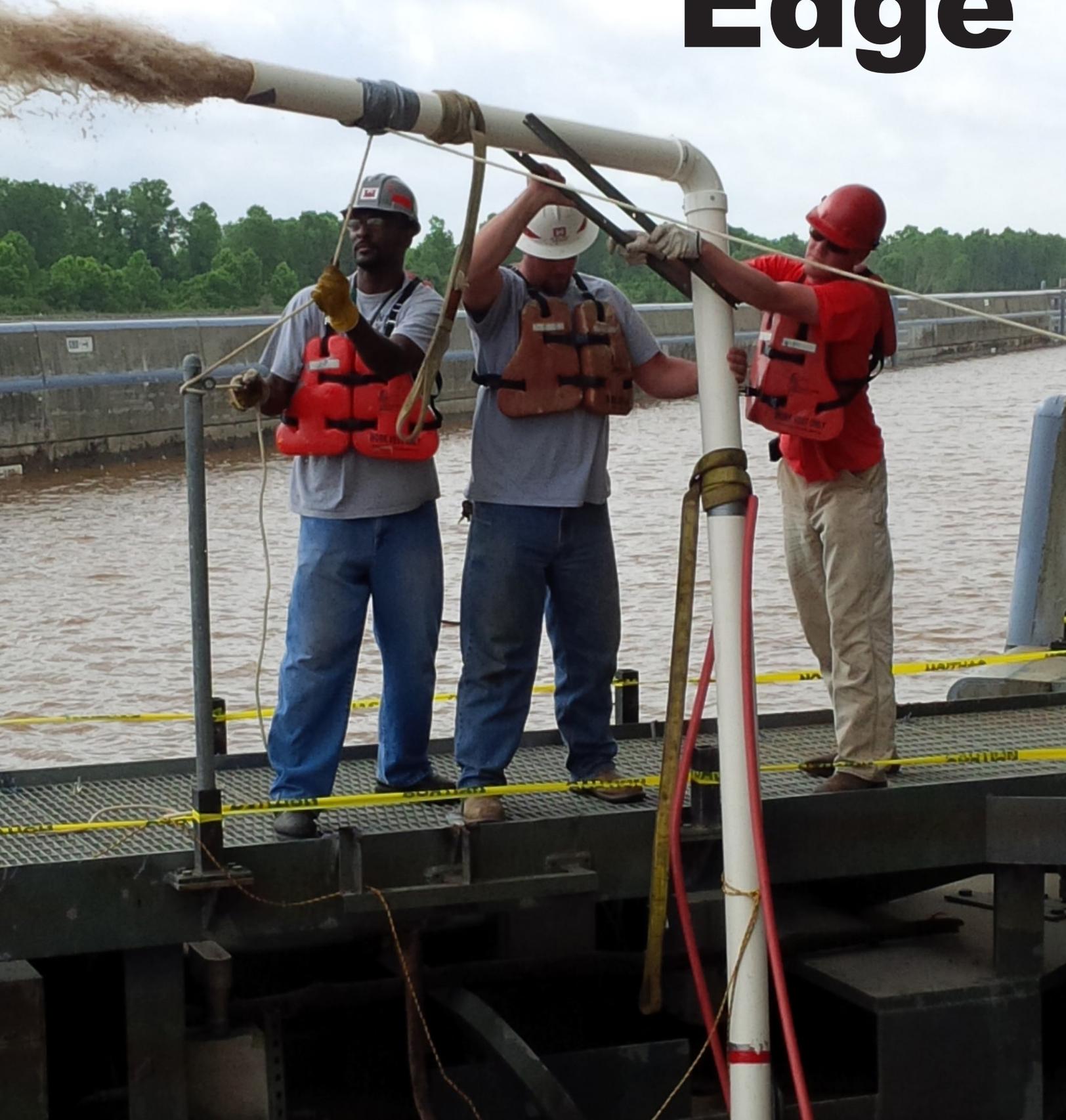
US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
Vicksburg District

THE

# Water's

FALL 2015

# Edge





## US Army Corps of Engineers®

News magazine of the Vicksburg District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

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# CONTENTS

Fall 2015

Commander's Corner Colonel John W. Cross .....	3
Hurricane Mound Site Salvage Archaeological Excavation 2015 .....	4-7
Red River Flood .....	8-9
Hydraulic Modelers Travel to Alaska for Enhancement of Delivery Methods for Programs, Products and Services .....	10
Inspecting From New Heights .....	11
Vicksburg Leadership Development Program Class Leaves Legacy Through Timeline and Community Outreach.....	12-13
Real Men Read.....	13
Corps' Vicksburg District Hosts a Blessing of the Fleet.....	14
Defense Media Activity Guide To Keeping Your Social Media Accounts Secure.....	15
Photo Feature Engineer's Day Picnic .....	16
Photo Feature Founder's Day Celebration.....	17
Your Personal Information: Protecting It From Exploitation.....	20
District Payroll Liaison Retires.....	21
Chief of Budget Manpower and Management Branch Retires .....	22
District Announces Annual Engineers Day Awards.....	23-25
New Chief of Construction, A&E Branch of Contracting Division.....	23
Founder's Day - District Honors .....	26, 28
Combined Federal Campaign 2015 Kick Off.....	27-29
Safety Consideration by Louisiana Field Office Park Rangers Shines for Visitors.....	30
Sardis Lake Celebrates 75th Anniversary .....	31

### Need to Know

#### PEOPLE

Wanda Stevens, Pat Upton and Ellis Screws

#### PROCESSES

Hurricane Mound Site Salvage Archaeological Excavation

#### PROJECTS

VLDP Leaves Legacy Through Timeline and Community Outreach



## On the Cover

Corps personnel pump silt from behind the gate of  
Lock and Dam #5 on the Red River.

Photo by Alfred Dulaney

# Commander's Corner

with Colonel John W. Cross



## Greetings! I Hope Everyone had Bright Holidays and have a Prosperous New Year

I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication to the District Mission. I am very proud of all of our employees as they work diligently. Everywhere I go within the District, I am impressed with the quality of our workforce.

I recently had a chance to spend Thanksgiving with the crew on the Mat Sinking Unit and also spent some time with the team members on the Dredge Jadwin. An unbelievable amount of hard work occurs on the Mississippi River every day during our revetment and dredging seasons. The men and women who make up the team - from our cooks to our revetment workers, to our pilots and mechanics - just to name a few, are special, dedicated folks who put the mission before themselves and serve with pride and distinction. I enjoy talking with team members and hearing their personal stories. I am also delighted with their accomplishments and their families, all while getting to know everyone a little better.

I also thank everyone for giving so greatly during this past fall and holiday season. Our contributions to the Combined Federal Campaign and the Salvation Army Angel Tree project are just two very visible ways that the District displays selfless service. I am very proud of everyone who makes the effort to give to oth-



ers especially through the Holiday season. I know that many of our employees give through their churches and other community organizations both privately and publicly. Thank you!

2016 will be another exciting year in the Vicksburg District. Lots of opportunities are always around the corner waiting to be found! Thank you again for all that you do!



# Hurricane Mound Site Salvage Archaeological Excavation 2015

By Bill Latham

Photos by Bill Latham and courtesy of historical files

Sardis Lake Field Office recently partnered with students and faculty of the University of Mississippi Department of Sociology and Anthropology. This partnership was formed to conduct a salvage excavation at the Hurricane Mound site in Lafayette County, Mississippi.

The prehistoric site adjacent to the Hurricane Mound has been eroding several inches each year as the lake was drawn down to winter pool. Numerous features were visible to the east of the mound and were in danger of being lost. For several years, the Sardis Lake Field Office has requested funding to conduct a survey of the area adjacent to the mound; in FY 2015 that funding request was approved. The initial study and preservation of the mound was conducted in 1980.

Normally the timeframe for conducting such a project would not have been an issue. However, this site is in the center of the lake and for most of the year it is 10 feet under water. A review of the past 10 years, lake levels revealed that the site, on average, would be accessible from

the end of October to about mid-March. This was the average, and some years those dates varied by several weeks. In the initial planning stage it was determined that the excavation phase of work needed to be initiated and completed during the December 2014 to February 2015 timeframe. The field office sought help from Vicksburg District's archaeologist Sarah Koppel. Sarah contacted Dr. Jay Johnson of the University of Mississippi Department of Sociology and Anthropology. Dr. Jay was very familiar with the site and recognized an opportunity to engage his students in an important project only twenty minutes from the campus. With only a few weeks until the window of opportunity would be open, coordination shifted into high gear. Dr. Johnson assigned one graduate student to the project as part of his Thesis preparation and planned to utilize a work party of undergraduate students needing to gain field work experience.

*(continued on page 5)*

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA RECOVERY AND PRESERVATION OF HURRICANE MOUND (22La516), LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

In July of 1980, the Vicksburg District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contracted with the Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Mississippi to conduct a cultural resources reconnaissance of the four Corps owned lakes in north Mississippi. A part of that project required that a percentage of the reported sites be visited and it was in that context that the Hurricane Landing mound (22La516) was visited in October of 1980.

The earliest positive recording of the Hurricane Mound site appears on a map prepared by Dr. V.A. Coulter (1933) which depicts some of the physiographic and cultural features present



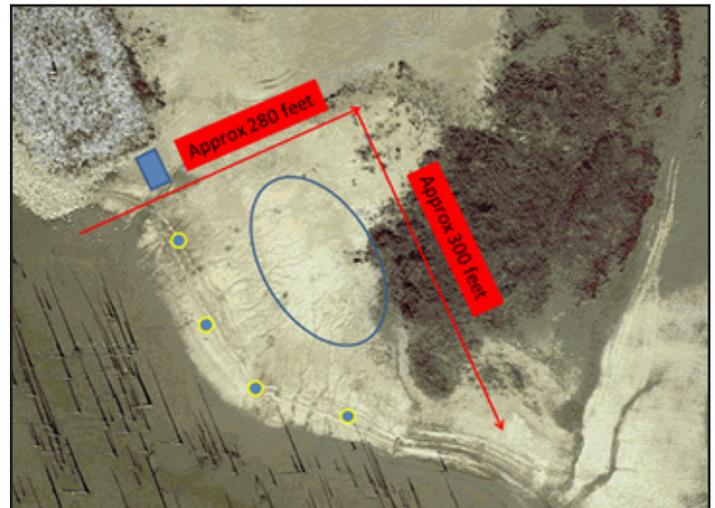
Figure 1. Hurricane Mound, October 1980, looking northwest.

*(Hurricane Mound Excavation, continued from page 4)*



The area of work was determined by a site visit by all parties and an initial surface survey was conducted in early December. Koepfel began the consultation phase with the Chickasaw and Choctaw tribal representatives and the State Historical Properties Office. Rangers from the Sardis Lake Field Office cordoned off the work area and increased patrols of the site.

With the window of opportunity narrowing, Dr. Jay began putting his team together as soon as the students returned from Christmas break and started mapping the features the last week of January. The excavation phase began the first week of February.



*Blue circle area of interest*

*Yellow circles – fire pits (the outer perimeter facing the lake has sloughed off about two feet since 1990)*

*Blue square – approximate site where structure outline was still visible in 1990*



Braving the elements, the team of students and Corps personnel made steady progress. While the excavation team worked vigorously, it soon became evident that the water screen would only process a small percentage of the material that was excavated each day. The remaining material was stored in a building at a nearby campground to be  
*(continued on page 6)*

*(Hurricane Mound Excavation, continued from page 5)*

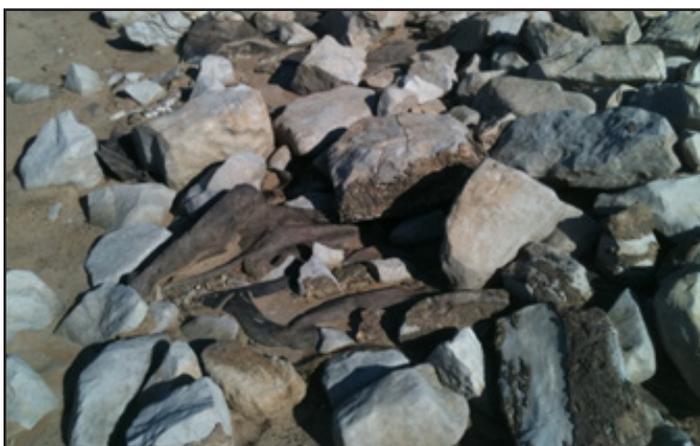


processed later. The excavation phase was completed just in time as weather patterns changed and the site was inundated with water a few days after the fence was removed. Over a three week period, 15 cubic yards of material was placed in bags and cataloged. To complete the project, the protective rip rap on the mound was scheduled to be renovated. However, with the rapid increases of the lake this phase will be completed during the next low water period. New rip rap will be placed around the entire perimeter, repair-

*(continued on page 7)*



(Hurricane Mound Excavation, concluded from page 6)  
 ing damage to the toe of the mound and any missing rip rap  
 anywhere else on the mound.



At the conclusion of the spring semester work began again on the project. The remaining material was water screened and the tedious work in the lab commenced. The separated material will be subjected to a ceramic, bone, carbonized seed, ethno botanical, and radiocarbon analysis. The mountain of data will be compiled into a detailed report by graduate student Josh Shiers and presented to the Sardis Lake Field Office upon its completion.



This project has been a team effort from start to finish. The team faced many uncertainties and was forced to work through numerous obstacles, including the tedious coordination process involving numerous agencies, limited time, and most importantly the weather. ◀

### Corps Team

Sarah Koppel	Bill Latham
Alton Pollan	Brandy Morrow
Brian Johnson	Jonas Boyles

### University Team

Dr. Jay Johnson	Josh Shiers
Grace Myers	Sam Butts
Joe Culen	Todd McLeod
Hamilton Bryant	Raymond Doherty
Stephanie Orsinin	Nikki Mattson
Zack Murphy	Robert Warren

### Chickasaw Team

Brady Davis	Joseph Smith
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# Red River Flood

By Richard Jones and Joey Windham

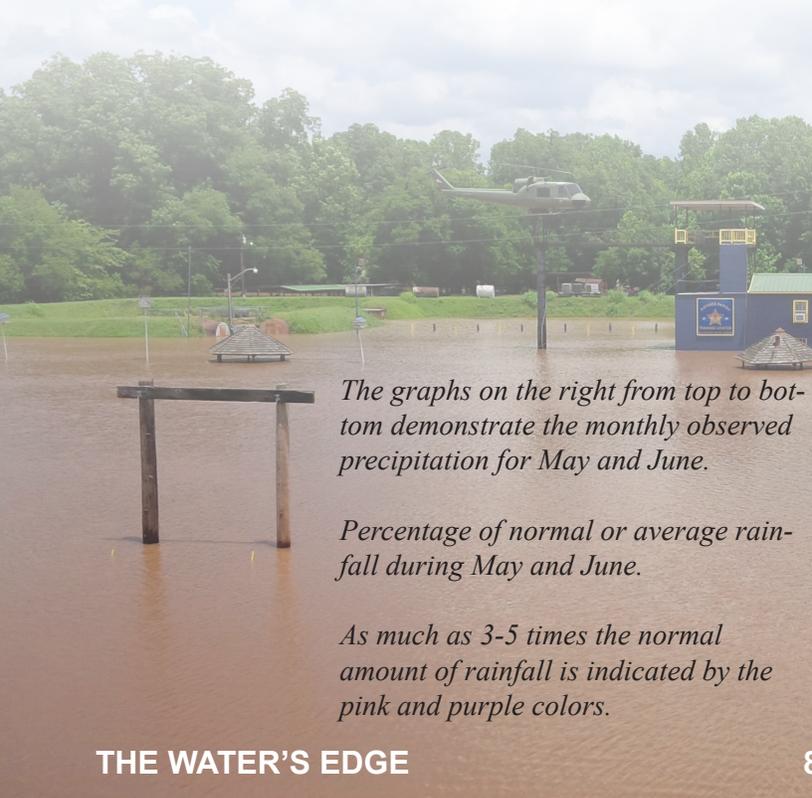
Photo and graphs courtesy of Operations Division

The Red River Main Stem and Tributaries High Water Event 2015 impacted the Vicksburg District's (MVK) area of responsibility in both Louisiana and Arkansas.

Col. John W. Cross, Vicksburg District Commander, signed a Declaration of Emergency on 26 May 26, 2015 due to a significant flood threat on the Red River, initiating Phase I of the response. MVK's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated at Level I on 27 May 27, 2015 in response to the rising water levels along the Red River. Phase I 12-hour levee patrols began on 29 May 29, 2015 in the Texarkana Sector and continued down the river through each sector with MVK's AOR until 6 July 6, 2015. The MVK EOC returned to normal operations on 7 July 7, 2015.

Support during this mission included over 48 USACE personnel from within the District, over 400 miles of levee, 13 levee boards, numerous cities, and the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) and the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (LA GOHSEP). Funds were drawn from Mississippi River and Tributaries (MR&T) and Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE).

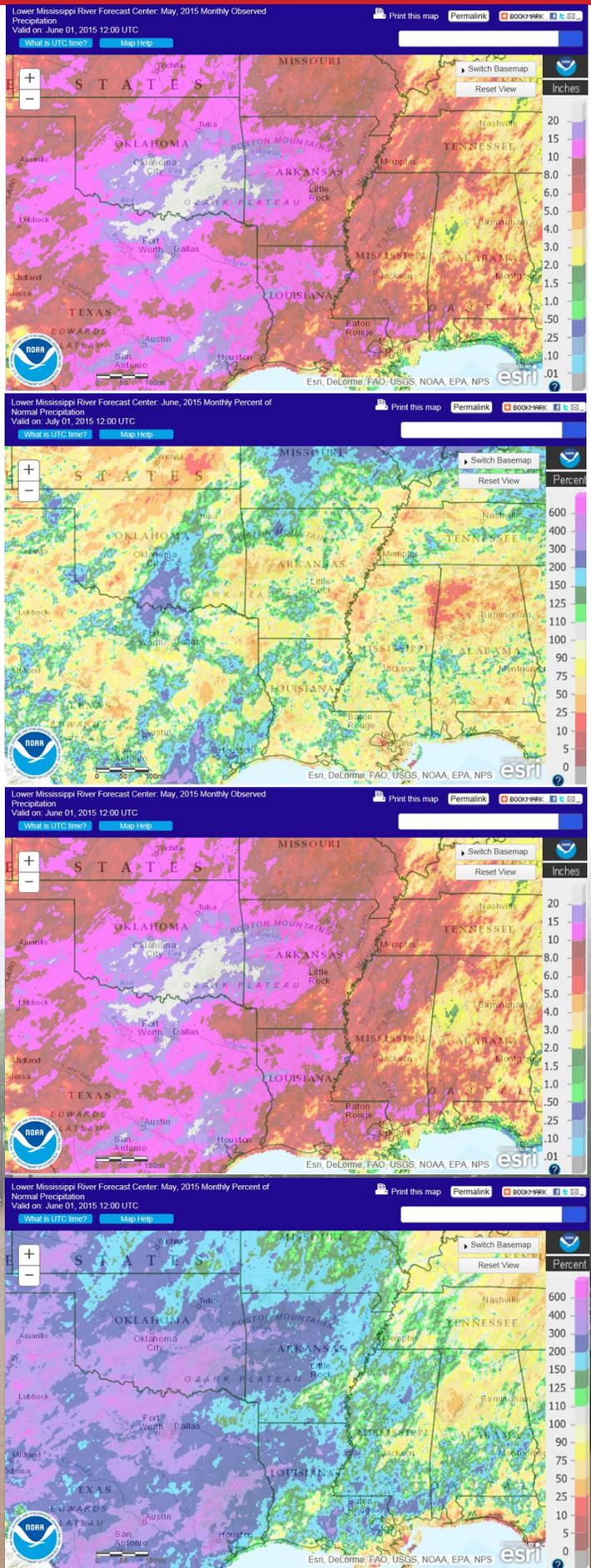
*(continued on page 9)*



*The graphs on the right from top to bottom demonstrate the monthly observed precipitation for May and June.*

*Percentage of normal or average rainfall during May and June.*

*As much as 3-5 times the normal amount of rainfall is indicated by the pink and purple colors.*



*(Red River, concluded from page 8)*

The Red River Levees experienced an extended period of high stages and many small seepage and sand boil sites were monitored daily. There were a total of 278 inspection points across 4 Flood Fight Sectors, including 9 incidents of sand boils, 182 incidents of seepage, 1 scoured section and 9 slides within the District boundaries. The levee system experienced some stress but performed as designed.

According to the National Weather Service, (NWS), a series of heavy rain events pounded fell on the upper Red River Basin above Shreveport, Louisiana the Southern Plains during the month of May 2015, especially in parts of Southern southern Oklahoma and Northern northeastern Texas along the Red River Basin above Shreveport, Louisiana. Record rainfall in May 2015 broke monthly totals that go back over 120 years. Monthly totals above 20 inches were common in these areas, which was is approximately 600% above normal. On May 28, 2015 the NWS issued a weekly weather briefing with observed 30 days of rainfall ranging between 8 to 10 inches.

This record rainfall caused Lake Texoma to reach its highest pool stage in history at 645.72 feet FEET on May 31, 2015.31st.May 31, 2015. The Tulsa District on Lake Texoma startedbegan releasing over 50,000 cubic feet per second (CFS) from Lake Texoma on May 24th.a as inflows into the reservoir increased and the reservoir kept rising. Releases increased to over 100,000 CFS on May 28th as

80,000 CFS of uncontrollable water spilled over the top of the 2000 foot spillway. Along with the huge amount of water being released from Lake Texoma, an average of 46,000 CFS was also being released from Lake Hugo, as it reached a record pool stage of 440.14 feet FEET during the same period. These were the main contributors to the Red River flooding downstream into parts of the Ark-La-Tex area.

The Red River reached heights not seen in 70 years, which caused major flooding in the cities of Shreveport and Bossier City. From rural farm lands along the Red River in Northeast northeast Texas, to small towns along the banks of the Red River in Southwest southwest Arkansas, into theas well as, the twin cities of Shreveport and Bossier City and other downstream river parishes., Tthe Red River Flood of 2015 caused major damage to many Ark-La-Tex communities where structures were built inside the Red River Levee protection system. ◀

<b>Red River Gages</b>	<b>Flood Stage</b>	<b>Crest Height</b>	<b>Date of Crest</b>	<b>Height Above Flood Stage</b>
Alexandria	32 ft	36.137.0 ft	Jun 16	45.1 0 ft
Coushatta	31 ft	38.83 ft	Jun 11	7.83 ft
Grand Ecore	33 ft	42.03 ft	Jun 13	9.03 ft
Shreveport	30 ft	37.1436.0 ft	Jun 9	76.104 ft



Richard Jones, area engineer for the Red River Project Office at Bossier City, Louisiana, served as the USACE Flood Fight commander, stated, “I was responsible for all planning, organizing, directing and controlling of the usace flood fight activities on the ground. We fought the flood from Index, Arkansas to near Marksville, Louisiana.

We coordinated with 13 levee boards, three states, four USACE districts, over 20 county/parish emergency management offices, a host of federal/state/parish/city officials, and the public. Ensuring a shared understanding of how to fight the flood, how to insure logistics and support went to priority tasks, and how to staff and man the entire Red River Basin were primary concerns. Overshadowing the entire campaign was how to preserve and minimize damage to the citizens and property.”

Jones also stated that it was necessary to fight both sides of the river requiring patrols on each bank. A command and control units were established to direct the efforts of their respective patrols.

There was a substandard levee upstream of Index, Arkansas that, if not addressed, would have had catastrophic consequences. The spillage would have inundated the

landward side of the right descending bank from Index to Garland City. Exercising the chain of command from USACE to the levee board to the emergency management rep to the regional management rep to Little Rock, to Austin and back down the Texas chain to the onsite rep, made it possible to close the gap and prevent a catastrophe. The process was initiated at 1000 hours on one day and the gap was closed by 1100 hours the next day! This was one of many examples where ordinary people were doing extraordinary things. This occurred time and time again, a testimony of how great Americans are in trying times.

The support provided by MVK was exceptional. Col. Cross demonstrated outstanding leadership in the fight and personally visited the field and personally briefed officials throughout the basin. This was a tremendous force multiplier.

Jones stated, “I could not ask for better support. The hours were long and the work exhausting. No one complained; they just adjusted their ruck sack and kept soldiering on. It is amazing what the corps can do in a disastrous situation. Times and experiences like this make me so proud to be a member of the Corps.” ◀

# Hydraulic Modelers Travel to Alaska for Enhancement of Delivery Methods for Programs, Products, and Services

By Drew Smith

Photo by Mike Sorrels

In early April, a team of Modeling, Mapping, and Consequences (MMC) Production Center hydraulic modelers from the District traveled to Anchorage, Alaska to meet with Alaska District hydraulics branch personnel. The meeting was held to begin the Corps Water Management System (CWMS) modeling of one of Alaska's most important river basins and for the exchange of critical data and expertise on the basin to the modeling team.

Whitney Sorrels, Dana Moree, Justin Giles, and Drew Smith, and other Corps personnel from other districts are leading the computer modeling effort. The Chena River Basin in central Alaska is upstream of Fairbanks, Alaska and contains the Alaska District's only flood control reservoir. The reservoir at Moose Creek Dam is used to regulate flows downstream on the Chena River to provide flood control in Fairbanks. The Chena River Basin receives the majority of its spring flows from snowmelt in the surrounding mountain ranges coupled with rainfall in early summer.

The modeling team will be building a suite of models for the Alaska District that will allow their water managers to make sound decisions regarding their releases from Moose Creek Dam. The model suite will include a hydrologic modeling system (HEC-HMS) model for computing runoff for snowmelt, as well as rainfall runoff in the spring and summer months. Also included is a reservoir system simulation (HEC-ResSim) model that will route these flows computed from HMS through Moose Creek Dam and downstream reaches of the Chena River down to Fairbanks.

There is also a river analysis system (HEC-RAS) model

in the suite that will route flows computed by both HMS and ResSim to compute stages in the river reaches downstream of the project. HEC-RAS will also be able to provide inundations during high flow events for mapping.

Finally, a flood impact analysis (HEC-FIA) model will be provided that takes the HEC-RAS computed water surface output and calculates damages to structures, losses to agriculture, and estimates potential loss of life in a given



*Pictured along Seward Highway are left to right, Whitney Sorrels, Wesley Crosby, Drew Smith, Kelsey Giles, Justin Giles, Josh Moree, Dana Moree, Kimberly McGaheran, Devon Gijbers, and Heather Craft. Mike Sorrels, also a part of the team, is not pictured.*

flood event. These models will run in a software package called CWMS as a system and will be run with real time data being collected by the Water Management office at the Alaska District.

This new modeling capability will give the Alaska District the ability to accurately forecast stages at Fairbanks as they relate to releases from Moose Creek Dam, as well as snowmelt and rainfall runoff flowing in from the upper reaches of the basin. Forecasting stages at Fairbanks more

*(continued on page 22)*

# Inspecting From New Heights

By Jack Hinton  
Photo by John Barnett

Due to changing times and funding constraints, new and innovative ways of operation within the Corps are necessary. This includes the need for remote operations of the tainter as well as miter gates at all four locks and dams on the Ouachita-Black River.

The first phase of the remote operations was to start with the two locks and dams upstream, Thatcher Lock and Dam and Felsenthal Lock and Dam, with the base of the remote operations located downstream at Columbia Lock and Dam. One requirement that must be met in order to achieve full remote status is to have all hydraulic steel structures (HSS) current with the HSS regulations. Accomplishing this requires District operations to work closely with engineering to meet the requirements of the HSS regulations, which is an efficient method to thoroughly inspect each HSS.

The St. Louis District was tasked with inspecting the tainter gates at both Thatcher and Felsenthal by rope access, while Vicksburg District structural engineers, John Barnett, Jack Hinton, and Ronnie Morrow, worked collectively with the Philadelphia District's structural engineers, Cameron Chasten and Yendeliz Martinez-Ruiz to accomplish getting both the upstream and downstream miter gates inspected at Thatcher and Felsenthal. Rope access allows each indi-

vidual inspector to quickly access, within arm's reach, all exposed areas of each gate. Rope access is the means of access by descending or ascending a main working line while the worker is protected by a secondary safety line. Rope access also includes climbing and climbing techniques with fall protection.

All inspectors are certified Level I Society of Professional Rope Access Technicians (SPRAT). SPRAT regulations require a SPRAT Level III technician to be onsite for setup, rigging, and overall safety supervision. Due to such stringent qualifications required to reach Level III status, the Corps does not currently have a SPRAT Level III and are required to contract out this part. Typically, the contract will include an additional SPRAT Level II inspector that can perform nondestructive testing on the critical welds on each gate.

Thatcher Lock is the only lock within the Vicksburg District that does not currently have stoplog slots, therefore dewatering is a difficult and expensive task. This posed an issue due to the fact that only a portion of the gate was above water. The portion that was above water was inspected by rope access and the rest of the gate was inspected by underwater dive inspector Adam Hamm of the Buffalo District with assistance from the Vicksburg District's

operations dive team. The rope access was rigged for descent from the top of each gate.

Once the inspector had negotiated the edge and descended, they climbed onto the horizontal beams and walked while still attached to the safety line. After the inspection was completed, the inspectors ascended the ropes back to the top of the gate. ◀

*Left to right, Ronnie Morrow and Jack Hinton (both EC-DS) performing the rope access HSS inspection on the upstream miter gates at Thatcher Lock and Dam.*



2014 - 2015 VLDP Graduating Class



## Vicksburg Leadership Development Program Class Leaves Legacy Through Timeline and Community Outreach

By Charlene Mosley, Whitney Sorrels, Sarah Koepfel, and student Jessica Dulaney  
Photos by Alfred Dulaney and Sarah Koepfel

The 2014-2015 Class of the Vicksburg Leadership Development Program (VLDP) had a productive and exciting year. Orientation was held at Eagle Ridge with 15 participants learning about different leadership styles and taking part in team building exercises.

The second day of orientation was held at District Headquarters building where District Commander Col. John W. Cross gave a presentation on leadership. Throughout his presentation, Col. Cross reiterated his matra, "Mission first, People always." A few months after orientation, VLDP members had an adventurous and snowy trip to Grenada and Enid lakes where field personnel gave briefings on leadership and career goals.

Field personnel at the Arkansas lakes also gave a first class tour of their projects and a briefing on leadership. Team members had the opportunity to hear different styles of leadership from operations program manager, Rick Dwyer, who said one thing a leader must do is to always "mitigate risks and set priorities."

Throughout the year, team members were able to gain a better perspective on legislation, diversity in the workplace, Mississippi Valley Division's (MVD) missions, and other

pertinent information for leadership development. To gain a better perspective on how state legislature makes decisions, team members visited the state's capitol and received a briefing from Senator Briggs Hopson. While sitting in the senate's chamber, team members witnessed Apollo 13 astronaut, Fred Haise, Jr. receive an award for his service. Henry Dulaney, chief of engineering and construction division, gave a briefing on multigenerational and diversity in the workplace. Team members also visited MVD to gain knowledge of its missions with senior leaders, Brian Chewning and Dennis Norris.

Each year, members of VLDP participate in a community service project and create a legacy project. The class was eager to help the District's adopted elementary school, Sherman Avenue Elementary this past May. To enhance the school's campus, team members cleared fallen limbs; built, painted and hung birdhouses; built a butterfly garden; and helped build an outdoor obstacle course to be used by physical education classes. The principal, teachers, and students were thrilled with their new additions and were thankful to VLDP members and local businesses for donating time and money to improve their school's environment.

*(continued on page 13)*

*(VLDP, concluded from page 12)*

The VLDP members were also ready for the challenge of creating a worthwhile legacy project to benefit the District for years to come. Walking down the hallways at



*Pictured above is the obstacle course at Sherman Avenue Elementary School built by VLDP members.*



*Pictured right are Charlene Mosley and Kimberly Cruz-Fernandez having fun painting birdhouses at Sherman Avenue Elementary School.*

District headquarters building, one can see and appreciate the work that the Vicksburg District does and has done for the states within our area of responsibility as well as for the nation. Pictures, letters, maps, reports, and artifacts highlight the significance of work that the District does and give insight to the District's history.

As a legacy project, the class created eight mobile panels that can easily be setup, depicting efforts from the District's 142 year rich history. The display captures Captain Benyaud's move from Monroe, Louisiana to Vicksburg in 1873, to the flood of 1927, to acquiring the Pearl River and Red River watersheds in 1981. One panel is dedicated to each of the following topics: The Early Years, River Engineering, A New Direction (highlighting Flood Control Acts), In the Fight (focused on WWI and WWII), Building Strong, The Environmental Age, Waterway Development, and A New Millennium. The panels can be displayed separately to highlight specific topics or displayed collectively to illus-

## Real Men Read

LTC Stephen M. Rhudy, Jr., Deputy District Commander, second from left, David Randolph second from right, and Dan Moore, far right, participate with others at the Real Men Read initiative at Sherman Elementary School, one of the District's adopted schools.

trate the many different eras of the Vicksburg District.

Members of the graduating class included Jim Cole, Kimberly Cruz-Fernandez, Janalyn Dement, Jared Everitt, Devon Gijsbers, Justin Giles, Diane Golden, Sarah Koepel, Jamie Richmond, Marla Sigman, Drew Smith, Whitney Sorrels, Daniel Sumerall, and Michael Wade. The class included team members within engineering & construction division, contracting division, operations division, including field personnel from Arkabutla Lake, Lake Ouachita, Monroe Area Office, and the programs and project management division.

The new VLDP class was inducted at Founder's Day on August 20. The members of the 2015-2016 class are Christopher Barnett, KC Ellis, Jeremy Herring, Brian S. Johnson, Abe Kidder, Will McRae, Joseph Minter, Dana Moree, Sarah Morrison, Jason Mothershed, Crissy Neal, Alaina O'Bannon, Brooke Southerland, and Tamara Rutherford. ◀

# Corps' Vicksburg District Hosts a Blessing of the Fleet

By Shirley J. Smith  
Photos by Alfred Dulaney

The District's Mat Sinking Unit (MSU) left the Vicksburg harbor for its annual revetment season on September 9, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. The District hosted a Blessing of the Fleet ceremony at the Vicksburg City Water Front as the MSU departed.

A tradition that dates back to medieval times, the Blessing of the Fleet originally started in early European fishing communities. A blessing bestowed by a local priest was meant to ask for an abundant and safe season.

The MSU is the only one of its kind in the world and performs one of the most important jobs in the Corps' river stabilization program. This unique one-of-a-kind crew places articulated concrete mats along the river banks of the Mississippi River to control erosion.

Its fleet consists of towboats, quarter boats, and a dredge, including the motor vessels BENYAURD, WILLIAM JAMES, and HARRISON, and other floating plants. The MSU is known as a floating city that houses and feeds its employees and has the capabilities to provide all of the electricity and potable water needed.

Inland waterway navigation is a crucial mission for the Corps. The MSU's responsibilities are to maintain more than 800 miles of navigable channels and harbors to ensure safe, cost-effective, dependable, and environmentally sustainable transportation of vessels within our country's inland waterways. ◀



*Shown in background is the Fleet being sprayed before its departure.*

*Reverend Sam Godfrey gives Benediction during Blessing of Fleet ceremony.*



*Chaplain, Col. Mitchell I. Lewis, gives Invocation at the Blessing of the Fleet.*



*Col. Cross discusses the Fleet with Reverend Godfrey.*



Social media is an integral part of the strategic communications and public affairs missions of the Department of Defense. Like any asset, it is something to defend and protect with vigilance. Cyberattacks are a real and present threat to the cyber security of government social media accounts. In this guide you will find the steps and contacts needed in order to be protective, preventative, prohibitive and proactive against cyber-attacks.

If you suspect that your organization is being targeted or compromised by a malicious cyber-attack, you must be proactive and swift to mitigate this threat. The steps you take can help to greatly reduce the risk of exposure and vulnerability of attack to your organization.

## PROTECTIVE MEASURES

**Use a strong password.** At least 20 characters long, that is either randomly-generated (like LauH6maicaza1Neez3zi) or a random string of words (like “hewn cloths titles yachts refine”). Use a unique password for each website or service you use; that way, if one account gets compromised, the rest are safe.

**Use a government e-mail address,** also with a strong password. A .gov or other private-domain account will generally be more secure than a public service, and will reduce the possibility of password-reset and other emails being intercepted. If you must use a public email provider, consider added precautions such as Gmail’s two-factor authentication.

Don’t give your username and password out to untrusted third parties, especially those promising to get you followers or make you money.

**Select third-party applications with care.** There are thousands of applications built by external developers that allow you to do an array of neat things with your account. However, you should be cautious before giving up control

of your account to someone else. Revoke access for any third-party application that you don’t recognize by visiting the Applications tab in your account settings.

**Make sure your computer and operating system is up-to-date** with the most recent patches, upgrades, and anti-virus software, and that all your computers and mobile devices are protected by secure passwords.

## PREPARATION CHECKLIST

**Change your Twitter account passwords.** Never send passwords via email, even internally.

**Keep your email accounts secure.** Twitter, Facebook, Google+, etc use email for password resets and official communication. Change your email passwords, and use a password different from your social media account passwords.

**Review your authorized applications.** Log in to Twitter or Facebook and review the applications authorized to access your accounts. If you don’t recognize any of the applications on Twitter, contact them immediately by filing a security ticket and emailing hacked@twitter.com.

**Use extra security features.** This will help keep your accounts protected. Facebook has a whole section on how to do that located here.

**Build a plan.** Create a formal incident response plan. If your organization is a target for a phishing campaign or has been hacked, you’ll be prepared to take action and resolve the issue immediately.

**Talk with your security team** about ensuring that your email system is as safe as possible.

**Minimize the number of people who have access to the account.** Even if you use a third-party platform to avoid sharing the actual account passwords, each of these people is a possible avenue for phishing or other compromise.

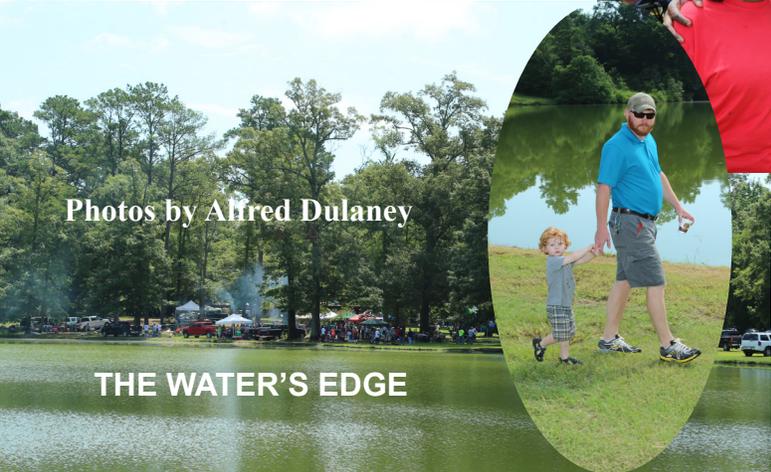
*(continued on page 18)*



# Defense Media Activity Guide To Keeping Your Social Media Accounts Secure



ENGINEER'S DAY PICNIC



Photos by Alfred Dulaney



THE WATER'S EDGE



FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATION

Photos by Alfred Dulaney



*(Keeping Social Media Secure, continued from page 15)*

Log out of Facebook and Twitter when you use a computer you share with other people. If you forget, you can log out remotely.

**Check for signs of compromise.** Checking your email address and authorized apps weekly or monthly can help detect unauthorized access and address the problem before access is abused.

**Change your password regularly.** Changing your social media passwords quarterly or yearly can reset the clock if a password has leaked.

**Using a Password Manager integrated into your browser can help prevent successful phishing attacks.** Third-party solutions such as 1Password or LastPass make it much easier to use a very strong password. Password managers, as well as the browser's built-in password manager, will only auto-fill passwords on the correct website. If the password manager does not auto-fill, this might indicate a phishing attempt.

IF YOU SUSPECT YOUR ACCOUNT IS COMPROMISED, THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS ARE ADVISED:

1. Notify your chain of command immediately
2. If possible, suspend all accounts to prohibit further illicit activity
3. Take the following action on the following platforms to stop the hack from proceeding

## TWITTER

If you suspect your organization is being targeted by a phishing campaign or has been compromised by a phishing attack, contact us immediately at [hacked@twitter.com](mailto:hacked@twitter.com) with the word "Hacking" in the subject. Include copies of suspected phishing emails.

1. Immediately change your Twitter password and the password on the email associated with the account, following the tips at right.
2. Delete any unwanted Tweets that may have been sent without your permission.
3. Go to the Applications tab of your account settings and revoke access to any apps you don't recognize. To be absolutely sure, revoke them all and reauthorize known apps and devices by logging in from them one-by-one.
4. You should also check the Mobile tab of your account settings. If the phone number associated with the account is not yours, click the "Delete my phone" link at the bottom of the page.
5. Remind anyone with authorized access to your account to follow the precautions outlined on this page.
6. If you can't access your account, file a support ticket

at <https://support.twitter.com/forms/hacked> and email the ticket number to [hacked@twitter.com](mailto:hacked@twitter.com).

## FACEBOOK

If you suspect your organization is being targeted by a phishing campaign or has been compromised by a phishing attack, contact them immediately at [Katie.Harbath@fb.com](mailto:Katie.Harbath@fb.com) (government Facebook representative) to explain the situation.

If you think your account was taken over by someone else, Facebook can help you secure it. This process can also help if your account or computer has been affected by a virus or malware.

For more information about staying safe on Facebook, please visit the Security Page or our Help Centre. Here are a few things you can do to keep your account safe:

• **Pick a unique, strong password.** Use combinations of at least 6 letters, numbers and punctuation marks and don't use this password for any of your other accounts. You can also use a password safe like LastPass, KeePass or 1Password to set and remember unique passwords for your account. Learn how to change your password.

• **Think before you click.** Never click suspicious links, even if they come from a friend or a company you know. This includes links sent on Facebook (ex: in a chat or story) or in emails. If one of your friends clicks a spam link, they could accidentally send you or tag you in spammy posts. If you see something suspicious on Facebook, report it. You also shouldn't download things (ex: a.exe file) if you aren't sure what they are. Learn more about recognizing suspicious emails.

• **Watch out for fake Pages and apps/games.** Be suspicious of Pages promoting offers that are too good to be true. If in doubt, check to see if a Page is verified. Also be mindful when you install new apps or games. Sometimes scammers use bad apps and games to gain access to your Facebook account.

• **Don't accept friend requests from people you don't know.** Sometimes scammers will create fake accounts to friend people. Becoming friends with scammers allows them access to spam your Timeline, tag you in posts and send you malicious messages. Your real friends may also end up being targeted

**Sign in will require something you know and something you have.** With 2-Step Verification, you'll protect your account with something you know (your password) and something you have (your phone or Security Key).

**Verification codes made just for you.** Codes are uniquely crafted for your account when you need them.

*(continued on page 19)*

*(Keeping Social Media Secure, concluded from page 18)*

If you choose to use verification codes, they will be sent to your phone via text, voice call, or our mobile app. Each code can only be used once. See Features to learn about backup options for times when your phone is not available.

For more information, and to get access to the steps you might need to take if your account is compromised, here is the Google Safety Center link.

## INSTAGRAM

If you think your account has been hacked and you're no longer able to log in, let Instagram know. If your account is leaving comments or sharing things that you haven't posted, your password may be compromised.

To secure your account:

- Change your password or send yourself a password reset email

- **Revoke access to any suspicious third-party apps**

Note: Never grant third-party access to a website or apps that aren't following our Community Guidelines or Terms of Use (including websites selling or promising free followers or likes), as it's likely an attempt to use your account in an inappropriate way.

## FLICKR

Flickr is a photo and video-sharing community run by Yahoo. Millions of members from all over the world are uploading photos and video that they have created, each sharing their unique view of the world. When using Flickr you can post, sort, and share photos and videos you have created with friends, family, and folks from across the globe.

**How to customize your privacy controls:** Flickr empowers the community to control access to content by providing multiple options for adjusting privacy settings on photos, your Flickr profile, and even on commenting and contact preferences. To review these settings, visit your Flickr account page. Some important sections:

4. **Profile settings.** You can control your profile privacy settings to dictate who is able to see different parts of your profile.

**Change a password.** For a Yahoo account, you can change your password at [https://edit.yahoo.com/config/change\\_pw](https://edit.yahoo.com/config/change_pw). If you can no longer access your account, you can get a new password at <https://edit.yahoo.com/forgot-root/>.

**Commenting controls.** You control who can comment on your public photos and videos. By default, anyone is able to comment on your photos. You can change this in the

privacy setting for comments. If someone posts a comment you don't like, you can just delete it.

**Post with care:** The Flickr community is ever growing. As you upload content, be sure to know which privacy settings you have selected and how visible the content will be to the general public. You can also choose to opt out of your content being searchable on third-party sites.

**Block unwanted individuals:** Sometimes we just don't want to interact with someone. By blocking a community member, that person can no longer interact with you or your photos. There are three ways to block a person:

1. Click the "Block [membername]" link on the Person menu.

2. Click the "Block this person?" link on the person's profile page.

3. Delete a comment on one of your photos. (You'll see the option to block the person, too.)

To see the people you've blocked, click the link at the bottom of your contact list.

**SafeSearch:** You can control what kind of content shows up on your Flickr searches. By default, SafeSearch is enabled on your account, which leaves restricted and moderate content out of the results. When you are signed in, this feature can help ensure that your audience is not exposed to "adult content". Learn more about SafeSearch.

**Report abuse:** The Flickr staff works with the community to ensure an enjoyable experience for all. If you see something you feel violates the Terms of Service or the Community Guidelines, report it by doing the following:

### Flagging a photo

1. Go to the photo's page.

2. At the bottom-right corner of the page, click Flag this photo.

3. Check the "I don't think this photo is flagged at the appropriate level" checkbox.

4. Click Submit.

The Flickr staff will review the photo in question.

If you come across content that you think might be illegal or prohibited, use the Report Abuse system instead.

### Reporting abuse

1. At the bottom of any Flickr page under "Community," click Report abuse.

2. Select the issue from the pull-down menu.

For more information about Yahoo Flickr, visit Yahoo Help. ◀

## YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION: PROTECTING IT FROM EXPLOITATION

Data breaches involving personal information result in a broad range of risks to individuals and organizations. This includes identity theft, targeting of individuals with knowledge of sensitive government information and internal business processes, and other intelligence activities that use personal information of U.S. citizens to undermine national security.

It is in our collective interest that we take actions to limit the risk of our personal information being exploited, and that we are able to recognize any indicators that we may be the target of such activities.

Confirmation that your personal information has been accessed in a data breach is not a guarantee that your information will be misused or that you will be targeted for further exploitation. However, it is important to remain mindful of the risk of such misuse or exploitation. The following information is provided to raise your awareness to this possibility and to help you understand how your personal information may be used by foreign intelligence services, and other “bad actors” (extremists, criminals, hackers, and the like).

The information below is provided to raise awareness and provide guidance for mitigating risks; it is not intended to indicate that the government has observed particular adverse effects from data compromises.

Continued from Page 1.

traveling out of the country. This information can be found at: <http://www.state.gov/misc/list/index.htm>;

- Report per your department, agency, or company instructions, all suspicious activity, events, or individuals you, relatives, and associates encounter; and
- Share these general awareness and protection guidelines with relatives and associates as appropriate. Avoid misconduct or behaviors that leave you vulnerable to blackmail, coercion, or recruitment.
- Do not share personal, financial, or sensitive information if you are contacted by unknown individuals or groups via e-mail, instant messaging or text, telephone, social media interaction, and personal encounters;
- Do not open attachments or click on links embedded in emails, instant messages or texts from unknown senders, senders who would be unlikely to send an email directly to you, and even from known senders with grammatical errors, misspellings, or if there is no text with the attachment or link;
- Install and maintain up-to-date anti-virus and anti-malware software to guard against viruses, other malicious code, and pop-ups that can appear if your computer is infected;
- Transmit electronic information safely using encryption and by using secure, known websites (e.g., with addresses starting with “https” rather than “http”);
- Share electronic files and photographs only with those you know as they contain embedded metadata such as identity, date and time, and location information;
- Select the highest level of privacy settings on your electronic devices and applications;
- Monitor your credit history and activity through a reputable credit bureau and your account statements for any unauthorized or unusual entries. Free credit reports can be obtained at: <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports>;
- Maintain direct positive control of, or leave at home, electronic devices during travel, especially when traveling out of the U.S.;
- Know the locations and contact information for U.S. embassies, consulates, and other diplomatic establishments for any issues or emergencies when traveling out of the country. This information can be found at <http://www.state.gov/misc/list/index.htm>;

### REPORTING

To protect yourself and your family, we urge all affected individuals to exercise caution and remain vigilant to any events appearing out of the ordinary or suspicious.

If you believe you have observed activity related to a personal data compromise or suspect your personal information has been exploited, report your concern promptly as instructed by your leadership.

The appropriate Federal government sites may also be used to report specific incidents:

- Report any suspected instances of identity theft to the FBI’s Internet Crime Complaint Center at [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).
- If you notice fraudulent activity, go to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) website ([www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft) or [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov)) and complete an ID theft complaint form and place a fraud alert on your credit report.
- Report unexplained activity related to criminal behavior to the local police department. Provide them with a copy of the FTC form and request a copy of the police report.

### More Information:

Additional information can be found at the [ncsc.gov](http://www.ncsc.gov) web site, including:

- Video Message from NCSC Deputy Director Dan Payne, *Your Personal Information – Protecting it from Exploitation*
- NCSC Overview Presentation, *Your Personal Information – Protecting it from Exploitation*
- Report per your department, agency, or company instructions, all suspicious activity, events, or individuals you, relatives, and associates encounter, and
- Share these general awareness and protection guidelines with relatives and associates as appropriate. Avoid misconduct or behaviors that leave you vulnerable to blackmail, coercion, or recruitment.

# District Payroll Liaison Retires

By Pat Upton  
Photos by Alfred Dulaney

If there was a payroll issue here at the District, who do, or did, you call? Wanda! Wanda Stevens, a financial management specialist in the Resource Management Office, finance and accounting branch, is no longer available to resolve District payroll issues – she retired in June.

Wanda Stevens began her service with the District in 1983 as a clerk typist in the Office of Comptroller, Finance and Accounting Branch. In 1988 she transferred as an accounting technician to Mississippi Valley Division and served there until 1995.

She returned to the Vicksburg District finance and accounting branch where she was a voucher examiner and later a civilian pay technician. In 2004 she became a financial management specialist and continued in that position until her retirement. As a financial management specialist she provided pay support and timekeeper guidance to the Vicksburg District, Mississippi Valley Division and the Region.

Steven's major accomplishments included planning and coordinating the creation of the Customer Service Rep-

resentative (CSR) Desk Standing Operating Procedures utilized by CSRs though out USACE. She provided support to numerous emergency operations to include Hurricane Katrina and Task Force Hope. Her awards include a Commander's Award for Civilian Service, an Achievement Medal for Civilian Service and numerous performance and special act awards.

Stevens is a native of Vicksburg and a graduate of Culklin High School. Prior to her federal service she was employed with various local businesses. She is an active member of Woodlawn Baptist Church. She plans to enjoy time with family, read stories to the children at Good Shepherd Community Center and continue teaching the Ladies Sunday school class at Woodlawn.

Pat Upton, a supervisory budget analyst in the Resource Management Office, stated, "Wanda was always willing to provide assistance to employees concerning pay and leave issues. There was no problem too large or small for her to tackle and solve. She will be missed by the Resource Management Office and the District." ◀



*Col Cross presents the Certificate of Retirement to Wanda Stevens.*



*Wanda Stevens bids farewell to her team members at the conclusion of her retirement ceremony.*

# Chief of Budget Manpower and Management Branch Retires

By Shirley J. Smith  
Photo by Alfred Dulaney



Pat Upton

Pat Upton, chief of budget manpower and management branch with the Resource Management Office, recently retired after 37 years of service to the District.

Upton's career began as a Co-Op student in Real Estate Division in 1978. Her duties included outgrant management and space utilization.

She later transferred to the finance and accounting branch of the Resource Management Office in December 1984, where she worked until June 2012. Her job duties included operating accountant for civil works projects and multi-purpose power accounting. She also reviewed/analyzed civil works reports; provided project managers with cost information and reports; performed duties related to the Chief Financial Officers (CFO) Act audits to ensure that the District met CFO compliance testing.

As budget officer she had technical and administrative responsibilities for the formulation, justification, and execution of the District's operating budget, manpower utilization and allocation, and management advisory services.

Upton stated that her most memorable event was her selection as the budget officer. "After working 27 ½ years in finance and accounting I made a career move to budget manpower and management. I thoroughly enjoyed the change and the new responsibilities and learned a lot along the way."

She is a member of the American Society of Military Comptrollers, Great River Chapter.

She earned her Bachelor's Degree in accounting from Mississippi State University.

A native of Ackerman, she is married to Marshall Upton and they have two children and three grandchildren. ◀

*(Hydraulic Modelers, concluded from page 10)*

accurately and with better technology will allow for better planning during a high flow event in one of Alaska's largest cities.

The MMC Production Center, headquartered at Vicksburg District, was tasked in FY2012 to team up with the Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC) for the implementation of CWMS on a national scale. The MMC is currently working on or has completed a total of 43 basins in seven divisions (22 districts in total). The implementation of an integrated and robust CWMS program will enhance other key national programs including Critical Infrastructure Protection and Resilience (CIPR), Dam Safety, Levee Safety,

Flood Risk Management, Unified Operation Command (UOC), and Planning and Programs.

These Corps programs will have the opportunity to effectively execute some of the Chief of Engineers' major tenets aimed at transforming the Corps Civil Works Program and deliver the best possible products and services to the Nation. These initiatives, led by the HEC/MMC, will transform the Corps from an individual multi-projects approach to a holistic system-oriented watershed approach. This will allow all of the programs to evaluate the current and future portfolio of water resources projects to implement a smart infrastructure strategy, and to advance methods of delivery for critical programs, products, and services. Full CWMS implementation is expected by 2021. ◀

# District Announces Annual Engineers Day Awards

By Shirley J. Smith  
Photos by Alfred Dulaney

During the Vicksburg District's annual Engineer's Day Awards ceremony held at District Headquarters, several team members received Honorary and Commander's Awards.

David Wallace of the Technical Support Branch of Engineering and Construction Division received the Vicksburg District's Employee of the Year Award. Wallace received this award for his outstanding dedication and initiative associated with providing valuable architect-engineer contracting and facilities relocations capabilities for the District, the region and other installations.



*Col Cross presents the Vicksburg District's Employee of the Year Award to David Wallace.*

Among other team members receiving awards were:

Jacob Brister of the Programs and Project Management Division received

the Commander's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Equal Employment Opportunity. Brister provided opportunities for minorities to pursue new career paths and continues to support the program through mentoring and coaching.

Wesley Crosby of the Engineering and Construction Division received the Engineer Award for his leadership as the national technical expert for dams. Under his leadership, the Modeling, Mapping, and Consequence Production Center completed approxi-  
*(continued on page 24)*

## New Chief of Construction, A&E Branch of Contracting Division

By Shirley J. Smith  
Photos by Alfred Dulaney



*Ellis Screws*

The District recently announced the selection of Ellis Screws as chief of its Construction and A&E Branch of the Contracting Division.

In this position, Screws will be the contracting officer responsible for the award of contracts for Construction, and Architectural & Engineering services for the Vicksburg District.

Prior to this selection, Screws served as a contract specialist within the District's Contracting Division. In that position, he was responsible for the awarding of contract actions of all types, procuring supplies and services, and supporting the various projects throughout the District. His career with the Corps began in May 2009.

A native of Rolling Fork, Screws is a graduate of Rolling Fork High School. He earned his Bachelor's Degree in engineering technology from the University of Southern Mississippi, and his Master's Degree in business administration from Mississippi College.

Ellis and his wife Karen have three children.

He is the son of the late Frank Screws and Wanda Monday of Rolling Fork. ◀

*(Engineer's Day Awards, continued from page 22)*



*Col Cross presents the Commander's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Equal Employment Opportunity to Jacob Brister.*



*Col Cross presents the Engineer Award to Wesley Crosby.*

mately 320 dam failure analyses to support the USACE Dam Safety and Critical Infrastructure, Protection and Resilience programs.

Amy Shultz of Operations Division's Lake Ouachita Field Office received the Park Ranger of the Year Award for her sustaining promotions of water safety programs through media and personal contacts while educating the public of practicing proper water safety techniques.

Gregory L. Anderson of the Hydraulics Branch of Engineering and Construction Division and Joshua Neisen of Sardis Lake Field Office of Operations Division both received Student of the Year Award. They were recognized for their willingness to accept challenges and the desire to succeed, exemplary of their strong character and leadership skills.

John Randolph of Engineering and Construction Division received the STEM Employee of the Year Award for his professionalism, dedication, and expert technical ability when sharing valuable information to students



*Col Cross presents the Park Ranger of the Year to Amy Shultz.*



*Col Cross presents the Student of the Year Award to Gregory Anderson.*

on science, technology, engineering and math.

Sarah Koeppel of Operations Division received the Commander's Public Service Award for her leadership, selfless service and stewardship through volunteerism. She consistently gives back to the community by providing opportunities for tomorrow's leaders to learn and observe, while enhancing the quality of life for the local community.



*Col Cross presents the STEM Employee of the Year Award to John David Randolph.*

The Mat Sinking Unit Re-Design Project Delivery Team received the Vicksburg District Team Award for their work on the Mat Sinking Unit Re-Design presentation which was presented to Congress: David Jenkins, Lee Grant, Andy Metts, Jonathan Pennington, Ed Adcock, Brandon Davis, and Terry Baldrige.



*Col Cross presents the Commander's Public Service Award to Sarah Koeppel.*



*Col Cross presents the District Delivery Team Award to the Mat Sinking Unit Re-Design Project Delivery Team.*

The Maintenance Employees at De-Gray Lake Field Office received The Wage Grade Team Award for distinguishing themselves by their positivity, enthusiasm, and team support in accomplishing their mission: Curtis Cannon, Eddie Quinn, Charles Kirtley, John Shuler, Kenny West, David Ligon, and Alvin Moss.

The Water Safety Project Delivery Team received the Team Safety Award for achieving zero water-related fatalities during 2014: Renea Guin, Chris Gunner, Jamie Richmond, Chris Hannaford, Artie Hoff, Pam Samuels, Diane Golden, Amy Shultz, Brian Westfall, Bill Jackson, Luke Benjamin, Lawran Richter, Richard Blanton, Ken Crawford, Danny Graham, Michael Robinson, Cody Scruggs, Jimmie Ward, and Tammy Fant.

Cori Carraway received the Volunteer Leadership Award for her selfless devotion to the Vicksburg District's Employee Recreation Organization and the Chamber of Commerce's Vicksburg Young Professionals group.

Avery Smith received the Wage Grade Leadership Award for exceptional performance as an electrician for the Lake Greeson Field Office.

*(Continued on page 25)*

*(Engineer's Day Awards, concluded from page 24)*

James Sims received the Scientist Award for his ongoing design work for multiple projects such as Plaquemines Parish, Mississippi River Levees, and Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas lake projects.



*Col Cross presents the Wage Grade Team Award to the DeGray Lake Field Office maintenance employees.*



*Col Cross presents the Team Safety Award to the Water Safety Project Delivery Team.*



*Col Cross presents the Volunteer Leadership Award to Cori Carraway.*

Cynthia Tucker received the Professional Award for her exceptional performance as a budget analyst for the Lake Ouachita Field Office.

Lelia K. Stamps received the Vicksburg District's Administrator Award for her professionalism, hard work, and dedication to the Design Branch.

Michael Warren received the Paddle Wheel Award for his enthusiasm and dedication to the Water Control Branch.



*Col Cross presents the Scientist Award to James Sims.*



*Col Cross presents the Professional Award to Cynthia Tucker.*



*Col Cross presents the Administrator Award to Lelia Stamps.*



*Col Cross presents the Paddle Wheel Award to Michael Warren.*

DeWayne Kelly received The Commander's Award for Civilian Service for his service as the Revetment Operations assistant forman for Operations Division.

Lamar Jenkins received the Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service for exceptional support in response to Task Force Hurricane Sandy from October 2012 to November 2012.

Wesley Crosby, Phil Dye, and

Justin Giles received The Modeling, Mapping, and Consequences Achievement Award for exceptional service to the MMC Flood Inundation Modeling Cadre in support of the Fort Worth District during the 2015 Texas Flood Fight.

Heather Craft and Ryan Reves received The Achievement Medal for Civilian Service to the Vicksburg District for exceptional performance in the execution and completion of the Periodic Assessment Report for Arkabutla Lake, and in the execution of the Bayou Bodcau Dam Slide repairs.

Colleen Cummins received a Commander's Coin for her exceptional service in graphic design and publication production for the 2015 Vicksburg District Career Day posters.

Jonathan Boone received a Commander's Coin for construction management excellence.

Colby Bankston, Ronnie Morrow, and David Little received a Commander's Coin for becoming the District's newest licensed Professional Engineers.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to individuals for their efforts during the closure and repair of the Jonesville Lock and Dam from April 26 to May 7, 2015.

- |                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Rodney Allen      | Mark Byers     |
| Bill Wiley        | Harvey Mathes  |
| Robert Hite       | Michael Coco   |
| Jimmy Coldiron    | Darnell Davis  |
| Jamey Douglas     | Joe Edwards    |
| Roger Gaston      | Doyle Glenn    |
| George Godger     | Kery Hatcher   |
| James Herrington  | DeWayne Kelly  |
| Andrew LaPrairie  |                |
| Dusty Pennington  | John Perrault  |
| Hayden Pickering  | Adam Scroggs   |
| Kerry Wyatt       | K.C. Ellis     |
| Charles Kimbrough | Skip Martin    |
| Chris Powell      | Barry Sullivan |
| Harvey Mathes     | Robert Hite    |

The ceremony concluded with the cutting of a cake with Col. Cross and

????????????????? ◀

# Founder's Day

## District Honors 50th Commemoration of Vietnam War, District's 142 Years of Service, and Length of Service Award Recipients

By Shirley J. Smith  
Photos by Alfred Dulaney

The annual Vicksburg District Founder's Day began with a breakfast for retired District team members as well as those retirees who are also Vietnam veterans. The ceremony, held recently at district headquarters building was hosted by the 2014-2015 Vicksburg Leadership Development Program class members.

Opening remarks were given by District Commander, Col. John W. Cross, who welcomed our retirees, Vietnam veterans, and District team members. He stated, "The District has a phenomenal reputation with our congressmen and stakeholders up and down the Mississippi Valley. Your reputation is strong, and that makes me proud. I'm in awe of all that you do. One of my jobs is to educate on what we do. We do above and beyond our regular mission."

This year marks the District's 142 years of service to the nation, and is also the 50th commemoration of the Vietnam War. Next, a video presentation was shown regarding the 50th Commemoration of the Vietnam War, produced in partnership with the Virginia International Tattoo, produced and directed by J. Scott Jackson.

Excerpt from the video:

"Nine million Americans served during the period of the Vietnam War; they represented 10% of their generation with 6,000,000 of them being volunteers. They were the oldest and best educated force that America had ever sent into harm's way. Ninety-seven percent were honorably dis-

charged. And today, the vast majority of them testify with their actions and their words that they are proud of their service and would serve again if called.

"Known as the Wall, the Vietnam Memorial stands in honor of those who served in the Vietnam War. The 58,286 names of the men and women who gave their lives are inscribed in the order they were taken from us. There were 155 Medal of Honor recipients. And let us not forget, there are still more than 1600 missing and unaccounted for personnel. American combat forces left Vietnam in 1973.

"To our Vietnam veterans who answered the nation's Call to Serve, We Thank You. Your greatness is etched in history from the battlefields of Southeast Asia to the neighborhoods of hometown America where you continue to bring blessings and inspiration to your families and your country today. To the families of our Vietnam veterans we thank you for the greatness of your support, sacrifice, vigilance, and compassion. And to our allies who stood by us 50 years ago we thank you. The greatness that was earned by this generation never left you and it never will."

After the video presentation, Col. Cross presented team members with 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years Length of Service Awards. Among team members recognized for their length of service were Wray Hogan and Nelson Harvey, who received certificates and pins for their 40 years of

*(Continued on page 28)*



Col Cross, center front, stands with veterans attending the District's Founder's Day ceremony.



Col Cross presents Length of Service Award to Wray Hogan.

# Combined Federal Campaign 2015 Kick Off

By Shirley J. Smith  
Photos by Alfred Dulaney

A Town Hall Meeting was held with District Commander, Col. John W. Cross, prior to the annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) Kickoff ceremony held recently at District headquarters building. Col. Cross presented several team members with Certificates of Appreciation, Commander's Award for Civilian Service, and Achievement Medal for Civilian Service for their efforts during the spring Red River flooding.

Opening remarks for the CFC Kickoff were given by Cynthia Sims, Contracting Division, the District's 2015 CFC chairperson. Guest speakers included representatives with the local United Way. Following their presentations, Col. Cross presented them with Certificates of Appreciation. The theme for this year's CFC is Imagine What We Can Do Together, with a District goal of \$45,000.

To add flavor to the Kickoff, a chili-cook off and dessert bake-off was held immediately following the CFC Kick-off ceremony when team members got the opportunity to sample varieties of chili and dessert! The samplers declared the winners listed on the page 27:

*(Continued on page 28)*



*Col Cross presents Charles Stokes with a Commander's Award for Civilian Service*



*Col Cross presents Sissy Carter with a Certificate of Appreciation*



*Col Cross presents United Way employees, Charlotta Ferguson, middle, and Kay Lee, right, with Certificates of Appreciation*



*Cynthia Sims gives the opening remarks at the Townhall/CFC Kickoff while Larry Walker looks on.*

*(Founder’s Day Ceremony, concluded from page 26)*



*Col Cross presents Length of Service Award to Nelson Harvey.*

service in the Government of the United States of America. Hogan, also a Vietnam Era veteran, was serving on site when the Berlin Wall was taken down, is a budget technician at the Louisiana Field Office and Harvey is an equipment operator at the Grenada Lake Field Office.

Following the Length of Service Awards, the VLDP class pointed out their legacy project that could be seen along the wall at the ceremony. The 2014-2015 VLDP class graduated and the 2015-2016 VLDP class members were introduced.

Concluding the ceremony was a cake cutting with Col. Cross, Robert J. Coco, Sr., a retiree, and Daniel Stagg, least tenured District team member, in honor of the District’s 142 years of service to the nation. ◀



*Robert Coco, Sr., left, and Daniel Stagg, right, assist Col Cross with cutting the ceremonial cake.*

*(2015 CFC Campaign, continued from page 27)*

*Chili Winners:*

1st place - Stephanie Doyal, Engineering and Construction Division (New Mexico Chili)

2nd place- Janalyn Dement, Contracting Division (Mama’s Best Chili)

3rd place – Greg Raimondo, chief of Public Affairs (Meaty Beaty Big and Bouncy Chili)

*Dessert Winners:*

1st place - Spenlinda Lake, Contracting Division (Cheese-cake Oreo Red Velvet Cake)

2nd place – Barrett Moore, Project Management (Dang Good Brownies)

3rd place – Sissy Carter, Engineering and Construction Division (Taramisu)

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the workplace giving program of the federal government of the United States. The mission of the CFC is “to promote and support philanthropy through a program that is employee focused, cost-efficient, and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.”

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the largest and most successful workplace charitable giving drive in the world. CFC is the only authorized charitable organization, solicitation of Federal employees in the workplace. ◀



**Imagine What We Can Do!**

## Safety consideration by Louisiana Field Office park rangers shines for visitors

By Diane Golden

Photo by Robert Allen

During the week of August 3– August 7, 2015 the “can do” attitude and consideration for public safety of Louisiana Field Office natural resources specialists Ben Nyegaard, Jesse Wisterman and Robert Allen came shining through.

Recent high water levels on the Ouachita/Black Rivers deposited large amounts of silt on many of the Corps boat ramps at the day-use areas on the rivers. Removing the silt required coordinated efforts of a qualified equipment operator, Ben Nyegaard, and safety observers Jesse Wisterman and Robert Allen. Each day began with a safety meeting and safety check of the four-wheel drive tractor used to clean the boat ramps.

After several days of extreme heat and frustration (flat tire on the tractor, twice!), the boat ramps were looking much better and most importantly were made available for the safe use by visitors to the boat ramps located at the day-use areas on the Ouachita/Black Rivers.

During the cleaning of the boat ramps several visitors took the time to say “Thanks” for removing the silt from the boat ramps and offered praise for seeing “park rangers” take

such pride in making the boat ramps safe to use. Nyegaard, Wisterman and Allen’s reply to the visitors’ praise was a humble “thank you.” ◀



*Bengaman Nyegaard removes silt with tractor.*

## 27th Dam Night Run Held at DeGray Lake

By Jeffrey Arthur, DeGray Lake

On July 25, 2015, for the third year in a row the Arkadelphia Running Club hosted the annual Dam Night Run. It was the 27th year this 5K event has been held at DeGray Lake. This event includes runners from Arkansas and Clark County.

The 5K event was themed “Everything is hotter when the sun goes down.” The theme was well thought through as the temperatures reached an expected 101 degrees at the start of the race and decreased to a cooler and comfortable 76 degrees near the end of the race. This year’s proceeds were donated to the CASA and the Clark County Imagination Library.

The participants of the event gathered at the Spillway Recreation Area off Skyline Drive and were transported to

the starting line by Hardman’s Lumber Company trucks or River Rats vans. The course is flat and downhill. All participants were encouraged to get a chip timer and attach it to their shoe and return it when they finished the race so Mac’s Race Timing Service could retrieve their time. Water stations were set up at the halfway point and remained very busy throughout the night.

Following the race, cold watermelon was available for all, and a water cannon was also provided for the runners. At a stage located near the finish line, the band Sensory2 entertained the crowd with live music. The Clark County Sheriff’s Department was in charge of monitoring all traffic conditions. ◀

## Safety Consideration by Louisiana Field Office Park Rangers Shines for Visitors

By Diane Golden  
Photo by Robert Allen

During the week of August 3– August 7, 2015 the “can do” attitude and consideration for public safety of Louisiana Field Office natural resources specialists Ben Nyegaard, Jesse Wisterman and Robert Allen came shining through.

Recent high water levels on the Ouachita/Black Rivers deposited large amounts of silt on many of the Corps boat ramps at the day-use areas on the rivers. Removing the silt required coordinated efforts of a qualified equipment operator, Ben Nyegaard, and safety observers Jesse Wisterman and Robert Allen. Each day began with a safety meeting and safety check of the four-wheel drive tractor used to clean the boat ramps.

After several days of extreme heat and frustration (flat tire on the tractor, twice!), the boat ramps were looking much better and most importantly were made available for the safe use by visitors to the boat ramps located at the day-use areas on the Ouachita/Black Rivers.

During the cleaning of the boat ramps several visitors took the time to say “Thanks” for removing the silt from the boat ramps and offered praise for seeing “park rangers” take such pride in making the boat ramps safe to use. Nyegaard, Wisterman and Allen’s reply to the visitors’ praise was a humble “thank you.” ◀

*Bengaman Nyegaard removes silt with tractor.*



# Sardis Lake Celebrates 75th Anniversary

By Shirley J. Smith

Photos by Shea Staten, Sardis Lake

Sardis Lake was the site of a recent ceremony commemorating its 75th anniversary. The ceremony was held at the Arty Tapp Overlook at Sardis Dam.

Completed in 1940, Sardis Lake is a 98,520-acre reservoir on the Little Tallahatchie River in Lafayette, Panola, and Marshall counties. Sardis Lake is impounded by Sardis Dam, located nine miles southeast of the town of Sardis and is approximately an hour drive from Memphis, Tennessee. It is one of four Corps reservoirs in North Mississippi providing flood control for more than 7,000 square miles. The lake is a popular destination for water-related recreation with facilities that include nine campgrounds, boat ramps, cabins, playgrounds and swimming beaches.

The Corps is the world's largest public engineering organization and has a firm commitment to preserving and enhancing our natural environment. The Corps is also the largest federal provider of outdoor and water-based recreation in the nation. The Vicksburg District encompasses a 68,000-square-mile area across portions of Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana. The primary mission of the Mississip-

pi lakes is to provide flood risk reduction. With approximately 1.3 million visitors each year, Sardis Lake also contributes approximately \$26 million into the local economy. For more information visit our website at [www.mvk.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvk.usace.army.mil). ◀



*Col Cross, center, talks with left to right, Bill Canty, field representative for Sen. Thad Cochran, and James Ross, chief of Operations Division.*



*Aerial view of Sardis Lake.*

## District Field Offices & Services

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601-631-5000**

Lake Ouachita (501) 767-2101  
Lake Greeson (870) 285-2151  
DeGray Lake (870) 246-5501  
Sardis Lake (662) 563-4531  
Arkabutla Lake (662) 562-6261  
Enid Lake (662) 563-4571  
Grenada Lake (662) 226-5911  
Bayou Bodcau (318) 949-1804  
JBJ Waterway (318) 322-6391

Ouachita-Black Rivers (318) 322-6391  
Corps Wetland Permits (601) 631-7071  
*Apply, ask questions, or report violations*  
Contracting & Bids (601) 631-7684  
*Vendors, status of bids, specs*  
Community Support (601) 631-5223  
*Tours, speakers, volunteers*  
Historical Questions & Research (601) 634-7023  
*Mississippi River History Center*  
Real Estate Issues (601) 631-5979  
*Corps impacts to your property*  
Employment Questions (601) 631-5858  
*Vacancies, status, qualifications*  
Historical Photographs (601) 631-5021  
Environmental (601) 631-7156

## Other Vicksburg Engineer/Federal Organizations

Mississippi Valley Division  
(601) 634-5760

Vicksburg National Military Park  
(601) 634-5760

Engineer Research and Development Center  
(601) 634-2504

U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Kickapoo  
(601) 636-8304

412th Engineer Command  
(601) 636-1686

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
(601) 629-6607

168th Engineer Group  
(601) 313-5290

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(601) 618-1203

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