



CROSSCURRENTS

ST. PAUL DISTRICT
U.S. ARMY, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Vol. 2, No. 3

November, 1978

District Wins Engineering Award

The St. Paul District has been notified that it has won the 1978 National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) Government Professional Development Award.

A letter to District Engineer COL Gay from NSPE Executive Director Donald G. W... stated that the presentation of this high award will be made 26 January 1979 in Oklahoma City.

The Professional Development Award Program for government agencies has as its goal the recognition of agencies which have been "outstanding in the development and application of forward-looking engineering employment practices."

St. Paul District statistics which helped win the award included the ratio of 75 legally registered or certified professional engineers and 32 engineers in training against 126 D0 employees classified as engineers -- 85 percent. Contributing to the winning of the award also was the high percentage of D0 engineers active in professional engineering training courses -- 83 percent.

Previously the District won the Minnesota SPE Government Professional Development Award twice, but this is the first win at the national level.

The Professional Engineers in Government plan to hold another award ceremony in the Twin Cities during Engineer Week in February.

DAM SAFETY TOPIC AT SAME MEETING

Peter Fischer was the speaker on "The National Dam Safety Program" at the Society of American Military Engineers luncheon at Garcia's, 15 November.

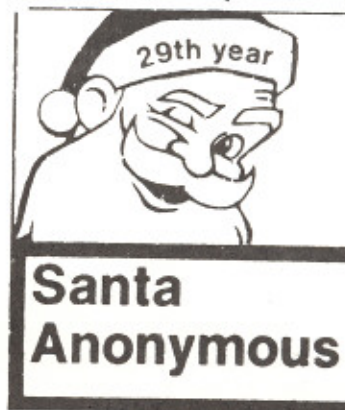
Corps, Minnesota DNR discuss plans, problems

The first annual joint meeting of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) and the St. Paul District took place 16 November at the St. Paul Holiday Inn.

Agency heads Colonel Forrest T. Gay, District Engineer, and Joe Alexander, MDNR Commissioner, took an active part during the day-long conference in exchanging views on many inter-related problem areas, future plans and means of achieving better cooperation.

The agenda for the meeting included topics which ranged from District small projects in the State to the non-structural solutions to flood threats.

Also taking part in the marathon session were key staff personnel of each agency. While considerable understanding was achieved, the meeting identified a number of areas where MDNR and Corps positions conflicted. Among these were such questions as who is qualified to administer the Section 404 Regulatory program, and how to deal with farm dikes in the Red River Valley.



Again this year, Santa Anonymous will collect toys for needy youngsters. A collection box will be set up soon in the Post Office lobby for toys donated for Christmas giving.

Thanks to diving team

Lock and Dam No. 10 Lockmaster Burnell L. Reinitz sends a note of appreciation to the men of the St. Paul District diving team for their services at the lock on Sunday evening, 22 October, when a miter gate malfunctioned.

Burnell writes that the divers had loaded their equipment and were at the scene within hours after they were called to inspect the gate bay and pintle area. By 7:15 p.m., they were underwater, and soon found the end of a towboat ratchet in the pintle area. After divers removed the ratchet, the gate operated smoothly, and by midnight navigation had returned to normal.

"To keep river traffic flowing normally, this group of men were called to work on Sunday afternoon and evening, to dive in low water temperatures, after dark," Burnell states. "My thanks to Wally Voss, Red Farrand, Ron Fetting, and Bill Wolf."

(Ed. note: other members of the diving team who were not on the L/D 10 job are Ed Helmueller, and Leonard Kaczorowski.)

POCKET GO-FORS GO FOR TOP SPOT

The Pocket-Go-Fors took the top spot last week of the Corps of Engineers Bowling League by taking 5 points from the High Balls.

The Go-Fors, who tied for last place in the beginning of the season, have shot into the race for first place in the eighth week of the season with a 33-22 record.

The Kids, who were tied for first with the Go-Fors, going into this weeks action hit a snag against the Corpathetics and Mark Stagg. Stagg with a 47 handicap rolled a 497 series against the Kids to help the Corpathetics take 5 points. This effort by Stagg overshadowed the weeks top series of 506 by Sam Moore, S0, of the Kids.

Those also gaining top weekly honors were Gerry Cohen, ED-D, receiving 2nd high series with a 503, and high game with a 199. Marvin Hrdlicka, AS-R, and Mark Stagg received honors for their games of 189 and 186. Betty Moore took high game for the women with a 156.



JUST BETWEEN US ..

(Based on Employee Fund records).

SO LONG to BILL POTTHAST, ED-D, GLENN BENGSTON, ED-D, and JERRY BLAIR, ED-F, who left the Corps during this past month.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BIRTH of a 7 lb., 9 oz. son, Kevin Andrew, to BEV and BRUCE TAMTE, ED-D, on 31 October; and a 7 lb., 6 oz. son, Michael Gerhardt, to MAUREEN and HAROLD TAGGATZ, CO-PO, on 30 October.

GET WELL SOON to CHUCK BRIDGER, CO-M, who is convalescing from surgery.

Lock and Dam No. 10 Lockmaster Burnell L. Reinitz, had these notes for Cross-currents from Guttenberg, Iowa:

Happy retirement to Howard E. Vorwald, Lock & Dam No. 10, who retired on 15 Sep 78 after 32 years of service.

Welcome aboard to Luke W. Smith, who has accepted an appointment as Lock & Dam operator at Lock & Dam No. 10. Luke worked 6 years as a laborer and temporary lock and dam operator prior to his permanent appointment.

from OAS...

NCS 308 Blue Route Slip - please use RED pen, pencil or felt pen to indicate routing. Red stands out clearer on the blue paper and helps insure proper delivery.

Smiling is
happy and
fun...
feels good...
Looks nice... and
costs nothing!

Repair work scheduled on two locks and dams

Locks and Dam No. 1 is scheduled to close 1 December, about two weeks earlier than the normal end of the navigation season, for dewatering and repairs. The early closing has been coordinated with the towing industry. The two locks at the site will be closed for four months.

The repair work is the preliminary step of a major rehabilitation program scheduled for L/D 1. Actual rehabilitation work will begin next winter, when the locks will be closed for five months.

Repairs through the coming winter season will include sandblasting and painting the lock gates; placing anchors in the dam; test blasting; and installing pressure relief valves on the lock floor.

The landward lock will be covered with a winter shelter and heated.

At the close of the navigation season, L/D 10, Guttenberg, Iowa, will also be dewatered and repaired. A closure by 18 December has been anticipated, although extremely cold weather may bring an earlier freeze-up. Work this winter on both lock installations will be completed in time for the opening of the navigation season next spring.

Judy's New Daughter



by Mary Jones

Last Father's Day, June 18, Judy Heutmaker, EP-E, got a phone call and became a mother.

The call was from a locally based adoption agency, Crossroads, telling her that she was to become the parent of a 3-year-old Indian girl. Judy has been waiting since March, 1977, when she first applied for adoption, for such a call. She is one of the first single parents to receive an adopted child from India.

Judy's new daughter was found abandoned in Calcutta last April, possibly because girls are not highly thought of in Indian families. Her name is Munni, but Judy is changing that to Molly, short for Mollika Marie. From what Judy has been told by the adoption agency, Molly is in good health, is very intelligent (though she is only 3, she speaks fluent Bengali), is popular with other children, and "quite a character." Judy isn't quite sure what the last phrase means, but will find out soon. Molly is expected to arrive in her new home about 27 November.

Judy admits she is a bit scared about the change in her life she is facing, but even though she hasn't yet seen Molly, her preparations for and thoughts of bringing up a foreign child have already broadened her horizons and made her more aware of people and their different lifestyles. "I can pick out a foreign child blocks away," she said.

She has just bought a new townhouse in Inver Grove Heights, so she and Molly will start out in their new home together. She painted Molly's room light yellow, and got some crayons as a gift "so Molly can brighten up the walls."

Judy plans to take time off work when Molly arrives, so they can get acquainted with each other. When Molly is more settled, Judy's sister will babysit during the day -- she has a 2-year-old of her own. So either the 2-year-old will learn Bengali, or Molly will learn English baby talk -- or they both might end up speaking Benglish.

How Will You Spend

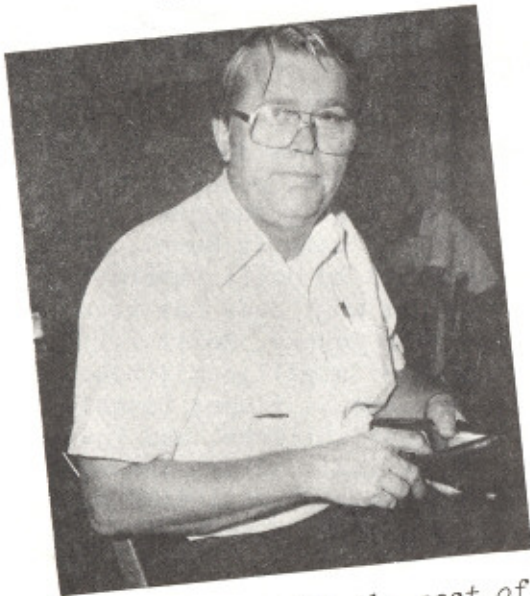
(Note: General schedule Federal employees received a 5.5 percent pay raise effective 8 October.)



"Pay taxes."
Dick Otto, CO-PO



"I'm going to Acapulco."
Val Burlingame, CO-PO



"Try to keep up with the cost of living - now I'm only 2 1/2% behind."
Dale Lynch, ED-D



"Make a down payment on a cup of coffee."
Fred Kelley, ED-PB



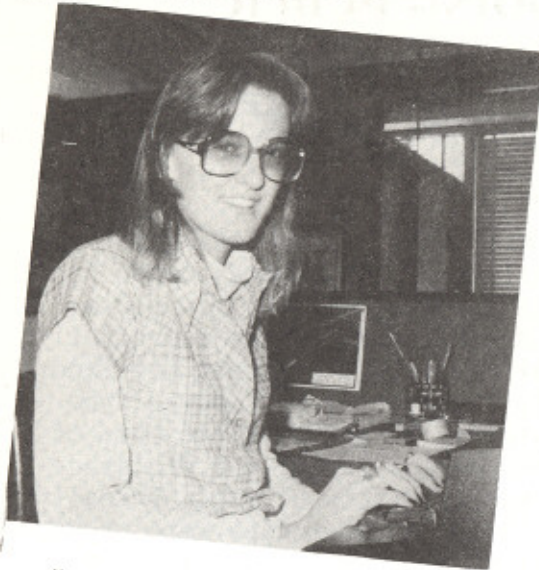
"My rent went up \$15 a month, but it won't be enough to cover that."
Jake Shetka, CO-PO



"Pay off bills - either that or buy a bed."
Paul Blair, ED-PB

Your Raise?

Ed Sunde, Leech Lake Dam Operator, received a packet of thank-you letters from the 5th and 6th graders at Longville Elementary School, following an Eco-Expoz. These are representative of the general sentiment:



"Save it for travel."
Gerry Kranz, CO-PO

I had a very good time at your camp. I was not wanting to go but I am glad I went. I enjoyed every minute of it I would like to come and check my tree we had lots of fun. Thank you for the maps and other papers. My class, the 5th grade was the worst class in the whole school, but you coddled us down and now we can go to St. Paul, Minn. and Duluth. You see we couldn't go unless we behaved. Thank you so much for letting us come.

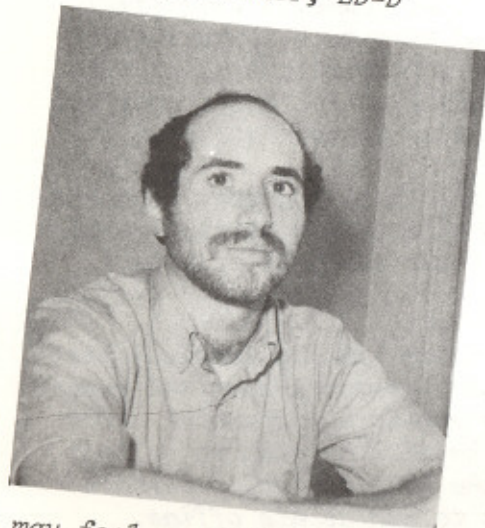
I learned a lot about the dam, I learned how the gates work & how long it is. And how the surr comes out to be drinking water. I also learned how to read a map better than before.

I liked the scavenger hunt I learned how to tell a white oak from a black oak. I like the DNR because they showed us how they put a little fire out and how to trans plant trees.

I liked the tower of the equipment I liked the movie on the wood duck because I learned the ways of a wood duck. I think you were very organized.



"What raise?"
Jerry Blomker, ED-D



"I may fool my landlady and pay the rent."

Todd Mendell, ED-PB

CORPSTOON

BY MICHAEL LOGUE



from the vicksburg District "Mark Twain"

Tami J. Burch, ED-PB
Phone: 7572

Melva L. Marshall, CO-M
Phone: 7547

Geraldine A. Sniker, AS-RM
Phone: 7522

Michael Schwalbe, CO
Phone: 7036

Virginia Bentley, ED-ER
Phone: 227-1426

Randall D. Devendorf, ED-ER
Phone: 5936

Bruce C. Heide, ED-ER
Phone: 5936

Thomas J. Landwehr, ED-ER
Phone: 5934

Dwain M. Prellwitz, ED-ER
Phone: 7084

Teresa H. Jenco, ED-D
Phone: 7625

Debra A. Faber, CO-GR
Phone: 7977

Margaret Reid, CO-A
Phone: 7552

Charles W. Walton, CO-A
Phone: 7552

NEW OFFICE EXTENSIONS

- Scott Thureen, ED-PB....7565
- Eunice B. Beran, EM....7511
- Deborah J. Kelly, ED-ER....227-1426
- Vera L. Golenzer, ED-ER....7079
- Charles P. Spitzack, ED-D....7628
- John P. Olson, CO-A....7542
- Mary Hutchinson, CO-A....7552
- Scott M. Voss, AS-G....5981

DAFFYNITIONS

Low Bidder - A contractor who is wondering what he left out.

Engineer's Estimate - The cost of construction in heaven.

from New England Division Bulletin

'GOING PUBLIC'



Walt Hermerding, Cross Lake park manager, recently received several dozen handwritten letters from Nisswa, Minnesota, school youngsters, expressing appreciation to the staff there for a recent Eco-Expoz. This one is typical of the remarks from the youngsters: "Dear Crosslake Cor. of Eng. Thank you for having the 6th grade come. It was very nice of you. I really liked it all. The two movies were great. I really liked when we had to find our way with the compass. The dam was neat to. Thank again, Your friend..."

The Eco-Expoz program has been in full swing at the reservoirs with 12 scheduled during the month of October, to take advantage of the fall weather and colors. Three at Cross Lake were attended by 153 students; others were at Gull, Sandy, Leech, Pokegama and Winnibigoshish lakes in the Headwaters; at Eau Galle near Spring Valley, Wisconsin; and at Orwell near Fergus Falls, Minnesota; and at Ash-tabula, North Dakota.

This letter of appreciation came to Colonel Gay, after he addressed a group of 2100 students at Blaine Senior High on 10 November:

"On behalf of the staff and students of Blaine Senior High, I wish to thank you for being a part of our Veteran's Day program. Your comments were timely, interesting and very much appreciated.

"This year's patriotic assembly was the first of its kind for our school and we definitely plan to make it an annual event.

"Once again, thank you very much for your time and effort in contributing to the success of our assembly program."

Art Neumeister, AS-RM, mentions that patients at the Veteran's Hospital greatly appreciate receiving paperback books. He says that he will be glad to collect and take to the hospital any paperback books brought to him at his office.

"Par For The Corps"

NOVEMBER BLIZZARD RECALLED

The "Great Armistice Day Blizzard" of 1940 is still recalled by natives of this region (those who can remember that far back!) for the tragic events of the day. The Corps of Engineers, in those days referred to as the "War Department," had an active part in the rescue operations that 11 November, the opening day of duck hunting season. Hordes of hunters had ventured out onto the Mississippi River banks and lowlands, lulled by morning temperatures in the 30's, and wet snow on the ground was mixed with rain that had fallen the day before. At about noon, a snow-driven wind came from the west at 43 mph, and by dusk, the temperature had gone to 10 degrees.

Caught unprepared, hunters were lost in the blizzard and freezing in light, wet clothing... The death toll, according to the Winona newspaper of 13 November, "along the Upper Mississippi River from Red Wing to Prairie du Chien, Wis., stood at 15 at noon today with a possible 20 when all bodies have been recovered."

The 12 November 1940 St. Paul Pioneer Press had this account:

THROCKMORTON OUT

Search continued today in the Winona pool for possible additional bodies... The U.S. War department boat Throckmorton left the Fountain City Boatyard at 9 a.m. today for a tour of the pool to pick up hunting equipment, dogs and anything else belonging to hunters that could be found. Several parties in small boats were working out of the Minnesota City boat landing...

The newspapers were filled with accounts of hunters found frozen despite desperate efforts to save themselves; and of heroic rescue attempts by searchers who risked their own lives to venture into the remote and treacherous area along the river.

From the Winona newspaper of 12 November:

Much praise was being pronounced today along this sector of the river for the officers and crews of the War department boats stationed at Fountain City which played such an important role in rescue work Monday night.

Those boats, strong enough to withstand the storm, worked all night Monday from Alma south in Winona, taking several score of stranded

"THE FLOATING NUN" TELLS OF RIVER LIFE

Sister Ann Thomasine Sampson, C.S.J. will present a slide-illustrated talk on her experiences riding the tows on the rivers and inter-coastal waterways, traveling over 12,000 miles to observe firsthand what life is like for those who ply our nation's waters. The 62-year-old St. Paul nun came away from her journeys with a deep respect for the integrity and courage of the people she traveled with; She acted as a confidante, sometimes a mother and most often, a best friend, to the crew members. After teaching music and history for 35 years, Sister Thomasine began riding the tows while tracing the history of the sisters of St. Joseph, who came upriver from St. Louis.

The presentation by Sister Thomasine, who has given many talks on "life on the river" is scheduled for 12:30 in Room 1033, on Tuesday, 12 December.

CAN YOU HELP FIND...?

Three color slides belonging to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources have been misplaced in the District Office. These are wetlands scenes which were among about a dozen slides the MDNR loaned for possible use as illustrations in the General Regulatory brochure now being printed. The MDNR identification includes the word "Wet." and numbers 13, 20, and 84.

The book "St. Paul, Saga of an American City," is missing from the District library, and librarian Mary Boland asks that it be returned for several other people are waiting to read it. This is the book that contains a photo of Bob Fletcher, ED-D, in Army uniform during World War II, which was reprinted in Crosscurrents in May.

hunters off islands, and unquestionably saving a score or more lives, rivermen believe. Many of those rescued by the crews suffered frost bites.

On Tuesday these boats and crews, aided by a U.S. Coast Guard boat, played an important part in the rescue work in the Winona pool area where many marooned Winona hunters had spent the night.

CAN THE
ENGINEERS
SAVE

BIGFOOT

As Military departments take increasing actions to protect the environment and save endangered species of plants and animals from extinction, the Corps of Engineers may prove to be the salvation of Bigfoot.

Bigfoot, also known by the Indian name Sasquatch, is purported to be an 8-foot tall, 900-pound humanoid that roams the forests and wilderness areas of the Pacific Northwest. Although most Federal Government agencies scoff at the existence of Bigfoot, the Corps lists the creature as one of the native species for the State of Washington in its Environmental Atlas.

So many people have been stalking Bigfoot with high-powered rifles and cameras that Skamania County, Washington, is prepared to impose a \$10,000 fine and a 5-year jail term on anyone who kills Bigfoot.

The question arises, what if Sasquatch, after he is discovered, is hunted to the point of extinction? This has happened to a number of species of animals, birds, and fish. Under U.S. law, the Secretary of Interior is empowered to list as endangered a species so threatened. "Normally, we must know a great deal about a species before we list it," says a spokesman for the Fish and Wildlife Service. "Many questions must be answered," he says, "such as how big is the population? Does it occur anywhere else? Is the population in danger of decline?"



Conservation Move May Keep Hunters From

Weird Prey

One of the first steps in placing an animal on the endangered species list is to recognize the fact that it exists. The only Federal agency to do so to date is the Corps of Engineers. The Fish and Wildlife Service received a request to place Sasquatch on the endangered species list; it refused, adding, "No requests have been received for the protection of the reputed foul-smelling Noxie monster, a 7-foot denizen of Oklahoma, or the skunk ape of the Everglades, or the infamous Mothman in West Virginia. But in time, such requests might come, and when they do, they'll be treated accordingly."

But despite such negative, skeptical opinions, the Corps Atlas states, under its Bigfoot listing: "Plaster casts have been made in tracks showing a large squarish foot 14 to 24 inches in length and 5 to 10 inches in breadth. Reported to feed on vegetation and some meat, Sasquatch is covered with long hair, except for the face and hands, and has a distinctly human-like form." The Atlas also points out that alleged Sasquatch hair samples inspected by FBI laboratories resulted in the conclusion that no such hair exists on any human or presently-known animal for which such data exists.

- from the Norfolk District bulletin

WHAT'S YOUR "PAIN IN THE NECK?"



- RED TAPE?
- DUPLICATIONS?
- DELAYS?
- POOR PLANNING?
- WASTE OF MATERIAL?
- INFERIOR PROCEDURES?

Suggest A Better Way!



AP LASER PHOTO

Pope John Paul II holds an unidentified boy during a general audience Wednesday at Vatican City. The boy shrieked, but seconds later smiled. It was John Paul's first general audience.

*It's a
small
world,
after all...*

by Mary Jones

The boy in this picture was unidentified when the Associated Press distributed the photo worldwide. But we know he is Aaron Phillips, 3½, son of Sue and Mark Phillips (ED-PB). Aaron is being held by Pope John Paul II, during the Pope's first general audience October 25 at Vatican City.

The Phillips', on a 5-week trip in Europe, were in Rome when John Paul II gave his first general audience. (They had been in Rome a few weeks previously, when Pope John Paul I was lying in state.) After the audience Mark decided he wanted a closer look, so, while Sue waited for them, he and Aaron elbowed their way through the crowds to the front, where the Pope was shaking hands with visitors. Mark said he almost gave up because there were so many people, but that he managed to reach the front of the crowd just as the Pope was walking in front of him. One of the Pope's security guards saw Aaron, took him out of Mark's arms, and handed him to the Pope. Judging by the picture, Aaron must have been taken by surprise. Mark was also able to get in a handshake with the Pope.

Mark and Sue didn't realize that a picture had been taken until two days

later, when they were at the airport headed home. They were talking with a woman who, on learning that Aaron had had his own personal audience with the Pope, said that he must be the little boy in the papers. The picture appeared on the front page of newspapers around the world, including the International Herald Tribune, the Chicago Tribune, and the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

The Phillips family travelled through Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, and Sicily, where Sue's sister and brother-in-law live.

*Aaron
in a
happier
moment*



from the La Farge, Wis., Epitaph:

CBS radio has lengthy poem about Kickapoo

Friday, the thirteenth day of October was not a totally unlucky day for the Kickapoo. That was the day the Valley people appeared on the CBS Evening News. Some may have failed to grasp the significance of that report.

For once a report did not result from the press release of some politician trying to score political points. Roger Mudd did a good job in prefacing the report. CBS gave us a prime slot in the broadcast; 5:45. The three or four minute spot was lengthy compared to the one and a half or two minutes given by most reports.

To have bought this kind of time would undoubtedly approached a million dollars.

The subject matter "Kickapoo" was totally foreign to CBS before their coming in. They captured the human, social and moral aspects which was a relief from the political and environmental aspects usually given by the media. It was free of the slanted and biased reporting the Wisconsin newspapers and television usually give which reflect the political conspiracy surrounding the Kickapoo issue.

Charles Osgood, CBS News Commentator found it newsworthy enough to compose the lengthy verse for radio.

People of the Kickapoo received well-deserved recognition and it is with gratitude that they should view this report.

Bernice Schroeder
KLOUT Secretary

P.S. It is assumed that the dollar damage of fifty million was computed by using the Proxmire 5% formula.

Once upon a time, there was a peaceful valley called Kickapoo, where it used to flood all the time. The people of the valley got very tired of this and said, "Let's ask the government to build a dam." That was in 1935. Since then, through the efforts of Uncle Sam and the Corps of Engineers, the situation has changed. Where once there was 9800 acres of productive farmland, there are now weeds. There is also a million-dollar bridge, which the good people of the valley say doesn't lead anywhere, a road, very well built indeed, which ends in the woods, and a dam which is unfinished. And do they still have floods in the Kickapoo Valley? Why, yes, gentle listener, they still do.

In the Kickapoo Valley of Wisconsin State,
The people had a flooding problem great.
This was back in 1935.

There's still lots of folks alive
Who remember the farming that they used to do
In the fruitful valley of the Kickapoo.
Then, of course, there would come a flood
And everything would turn to mud.
And the people said to Uncle Sam,
"Uncle, won't you come and make a dam?"
So, the Army Corps of Engineers,
Who've been building dams for years and years,
Began to work to see what they could do
To help those people there in Kickapoo.

If you're gonna have a dam, you gotta do it right;
Gotta buy up the land for the project site.
So, some farm families, about 73,
Had to move to make way for it, don't you see?
But Wisconsin University did a study
And they said that the dam would make the water muddy.
When the thing was finished, should the day have come,
The water would be covered with an opaque scum.
Now, that sounded no better there in Kickapoo
Than it would to us - I mean, to me and you.

In the meantime, the government took its time,
And ninety-eight hundred acres of farmland, prime,
Which the farmers had to leave to the government deed
Was growing a bumper crop of weed.
And the years went by and the time was lost,
And the estimates of the project's cost
Went up and up, the way things do,
Even in a place like Kickapoo.

Uncle Sam built a road, and it sure is fine.
It belongs to us. It's yours and mine.
And that road they built makes the locals mad.
Not that the road is poor or bad,
But they don't see and never have understood
Why the road ends right in the middle of the woods.
And about that bridge - that's another wonder.
A million-dollar bridge with water under,
And it can be crossed, should anybody care,
But nobody needs to get from here to there,
Or from there to here, if the truth be known.
But they say that's the way that that project's grown.

And people were afraid as the time went by.
They had good reason, and I'll tell you why:
For the lab report suggested that the water's unclean.
If you jump in to swim in it, you'd come out green.
There were studies and reports, there were endless
hearings,
And the Army Corps of Engineers did engineering.
And the cost that, in 1962,
For the dam to be built there in Kickapoo,
Rose from fifteen million, they allowed as how,
To fifty-five million if they did it now.

It's been 43 years since the U.S.A.
Began to help Kickapoo out that way.
They spent nineteen million dollars and they built their road
And a great new bridge, as we already showed.
And they let all that farmland go to seed,
Where today there's that acreage and sundry weed.
Still, the folks there in Kickapoo have the gall
To complain, showing little gratitude at all.
Congress got impatient and cut off the dough.
Building was stopped about three years ago.
The valley is frustrated, the people mad.
They'd settle now for what they one time had.

Uncle Sam's embarrassed and his face is red.
And this week somebody in the White House said,
"Tell you what we'll do in this Administration:
We'll assign a task force in the situation."
Nice of those folks in the capital city
To come right out like that and appoint a committee.
And who knows what that committee will find?
Whether to quit while they're still behind,
Or to finish the dam for several million more
That they started out planning in the days of yore.

Well, we should tell you that which everyone in Kickapoo
knows:
They still have the floods. Oh, they have lots of those.
Plenty of flood damage - my, oh, my!
Fifty million dollars just this past July.
"I'm angry," says a citizen, "indeed, I am!"
Now you know why they invented the expression: DAMN !

Incentive Awards

Headwater Notes

(Excerpts from Headwaters ledgers)

Outstanding Performance Rating

Harold E. Taggatz, CO-PO
Gweneth R. Spilde, EP-D

Outstanding Performance Rating and Quality Step Increase

Susan R. Bjorkquist, OAS
Norman W. Hildrum, ED-ER
Michael M. Weburg, CO-GR

Sustained Superior Performance Award

Audrey A. Thomas, ED-ER

Special Act Award

William D. Banks, OAS
For his work in establishing the video department; and for his production of the 1978 Rochester flood video coverage.

Suggestion Awards

David S. Christenson, ED-PB, \$50
For suggesting videotape presentation of District missions for new employees.

Edward J. De La Forest, ED-D, \$30
For initiating use of a new form for more reliable information, keep records and list priorities.

Certificate of Training for Participation in the Engineer and Scientist Career Intern Program

John F. Blackstone
Douglas L. Holmberg
Michael Monahan
Melissa A. Morris
Herbert A. Nelson

(from "Letters" book
beginning Sept. 10, 1904
@ Pokegama Falls)

Pokegama Falls Dam
Cohasset, Minn.
June, 26, 1907

Capt. Edward H. Schulz
Corps of Engineers
St. Paul, Minn.

Capt:

On making a trip of inspections of Dykes at lower end of Pokegama Lake, I find that No. 1 Dyke had been cut. A drain the width of a spade and then filled in again. On questioning Mr. Romano I learned it had been done by Mr. Chas Brock of Grand Rapids, Minn. who had a contract of building a new road, which will be explained in "sketch." Mr. Brock claims that as there were no sign boards, & a road crossing this dyke, he imagined it was only a road bed. He also offers to go there with me & put it in any shape which I may suggest & pay all expenses. The drain was made so a cordoroy road could be built across the flowage. I recommend that a fence be put on both sides of this dyke or a sign board placed. As the dyke is a very low one & a road crossing it, it is pretty hard for any person to tell whether it is a dyke or an old road fill. While Mr. Brock feels very sorry of his act, I suggested that he explain to you the whole truth.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Arthur M. Mampel
Dam Tender



"Noah, you've got to separate the elephants."

GRAND FORKS FLOOD

A videotape of the 1978 spring flood in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks will be shown as Project of the Month 7 December at 12:30 in Room 1515. Kevin Cook, ED-PB, did the filming, with some coverage supplied by local television stations. The script is narrated by Jack Crowson, CO-GR. Production of the film is a joint effort by Blanche Hom, ED-PB, and Bill Banks, AS.

Are you setting a good example for your kids...



by avoiding cigarettes?



by keeping weight normal?



by serving tasty, low-fat foods?



by seeing your doctor regularly?



by not being a TV athlete ...



but by exercising moderately instead?

Help your children form good living habits now
to reduce their risk of heart attack later.

Help your Heart... Help your Heart Fund 
American Heart Association

Contributed by the Publisher

OPEN SEASON STARTS ON HEALTH BENEFITS

A Federal Employees Health Benefits Program open season will be held from November 13 through December 8. Under open season regulations, any eligible employee who is not currently registered may enroll, and an enrolled employee may change from one plan or option to another, or from self only to self and family, or a combination of these. Those employees who do not wish to make a change in current enrollment need take no action during this open season.

Brochures on the following employee organization plans will be available to all employees upon request to the Personnel Office, ext. 6854.

- * AFGE Health Benefit Plan
- * Alliance Health Benefit Plan
- * American Postal Workers Union Plan
- * Government Employees Hospital Association Benefit Plan
- * Mail Handlers Benefit Plan
- * National Association of Letter Carriers Health Benefit Plan

Employees wishing to enroll or change their enrollment must complete a Health Benefits Registration Form (Standard Form 2809). These forms are available from Personnel Office, Technical Services Branch, Room 1805 and must be completed and submitted to that office prior to the close of business December 8.

New enrollments and changes in current enrollments elected during the open season will normally become effective January 14, 1979.



"I can only take one—who voted for flood control last time?"

OLD TIMERS CORNER

In 1936 during the great depression years and in the midst of the construction of the locks and dams when the late General Dwight F. Johns was District Engineer, he issued this District Memorandum:

"I ran across the following quotation recently, which struck a responsive note to the frame of mind which I happened to be in at the time I read it. I quote it below for the information and guidance of all concerned:

"The main thing is to keep an even keel. Don't let yourself be slapped down. Don't get into a stew because of what happens today, because something may happen tomorrow to cure it. Wait and see."

--Clarence Budington Kelland

This is just as applicable today as then when the Corps is faced with many problems in the conduct of its multiplicity of tasks.

A note to Crosscurrents comes from Doris and Francis How, with a new address at 1470 Willow Road, Apt. 308, Palo Alto, CA 94304. The Hows enclosed a copy of the newspaper printed for residents of the apparently huge apartment complex. In it, Doris How is pictured as the second place finisher in womens 8-ball October contest, which noted Doris was winner of the previous women's tourney. Francis wrote "I pitched softball for the Oak Creek Club most of the summer. Have been doing some consulting work." (Francis retired from Design Branch about eight years ago.)

SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Gunnar E. Blom, a retired survey chief with the St. Paul District, who died at the age 70 on 24 October, in a Duluth nursing home. He had retired in 1968, after 30 years service. Mrs. Blom lives at 4723 Pitt St., Duluth, MN 55804.

from personnel office

NEW DA CIVILIAN PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL & RATING SYSTEM 1 January 1979

The Department of Army has now developed a new Civilian Performance Appraisal and Rating System for implementation on 1 January 1979. This new system is quite different from the old annual adjective rating procedure. It provides for mutual goal setting, practical assessment of progress, and planning for improvement with employee participation at all stages. The new system offers the opportunity for frequent discussions and meaningful counseling on work performance. A cornerstone of the system is mutual agreement on the amount and quality of work expected from each employee. To implement the system successfully, it will be important for employees and supervisors to provide sufficient time and attention to their performance appraisal responsibilities. The system will include:

- a. Establishing current job related performance requirements which are understood by each supervisor and his/her employee.
- b. Providing employees with a meaningful annual evaluation by citing their strengths and weaknesses.
- c. Counseling employees to improve their performance.
- d. Joint goal setting with employee, designed to improve performance.
- e. Identifying training and developmental needs.
- f. Identifying high quality and marginal performance.

More detailed information on rating forms and procedures will soon be provided to each supervisor and manager. They will be discussing these forms and procedures with you. We will have to put more into the new system to insure it works. If we all do our part, the performance evaluation system will help to strengthen supervisor-employee relationships by clarifying where each employee stands in relation to the work expected. It will also help to remind supervisors to recognize employee accomplishments and performance.

The Personnel Office is going to have a special section set aside each month in "Crosscurrents" for information on Personnel matters. If you have any suggestions on topics you would be interested in, please contact Vicki Demo, Ext. 7500.

Incentive Awards

Headwater Notes

(Excerpts from Headwaters ledgers)

Outstanding Performance Rating

Harold E. Taggatz, CO-PO
Gweneth R. Spilde, EP-D

Outstanding Performance Rating and Quality Step Increase

Susan R. Bjorkquist, OAS
Norman W. Hildrum, ED-ER
Michael M. Weburg, CO-GR

Sustained Superior Performance Award

Audrey A. Thomas, ED-ER

Special Act Award

William D. Banks, OAS
For his work in establishing the video department; and for his production of the 1978 Rochester flood video coverage.

Suggestion Awards

David S. Christenson, ED-PB, \$50
For suggesting videotape presentation of District missions for new employees.

Edward J. De La Forest, ED-D, \$30
For initiating use of a new form for more reliable information, keep records and list priorities.

Certificate of Training for Participation in the Engineer and Scientist Career Intern Program

John F. Blackstone
Douglas L. Holmberg
Michael Monahan
Melissa A. Morris
Herbert A. Nelson

(from "Letters" book
beginning Sept. 10, 1904
@ Pokegama Falls)

Pokegama Falls Dam
Cohasset, Minn.
June, 26, 1907

Capt. Edward H. Schulz
Corps of Engineers
St. Paul, Minn.

Capt:

On making a trip of inspections of Dykes at lower end of Pokegama Lake, I find that No. 1 Dyke had been cut. A drain the width of a spade and then filled in again. On questioning Mr. Romano I learned it had been done by Mr. Chas Brock of Grand Rapids, Minn. who had a contract of building a new road, which will be explained in "sketch." Mr. Brock claims that as there were no sign boards, & a road crossing this dyke, he imagined it was only a road bed. He also offers to go there with me & put it in any shape which I may suggest & pay all expenses. The drain was made so a cordoroy road could be built across the flowage. I recommend that a fence be put on both sides of this dyke or a sign board placed. As the dyke is a very low one & a road crossing it, it is pretty hard for any person to tell whether it is a dyke or an old road fill. While Mr. Brock feels very sorry of his act, I suggested that he explain to you the whole truth.

Very Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
Arthur M. Mampel
Dam Tender

GRAND FORKS FLOOD

A videotape of the 1978 spring flood in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks will be shown as Project of the Month 7 December at 12:30 in Room 1515. Kevin Cook, ED-PB, did the filming, with some coverage supplied by local television stations. The script is narrated by Jack Crowson, CO-GR. Production of the film is a joint effort by Blanche Hom, ED-PB, and Bill Banks, AS.



"Noah, you've got to separate
the elephants."

CO-OP EDUCATION

by Terri Wheeler

The Co-Operative Education program at the St. Paul District has increased significantly in the past year. The program allows students to work in their desired fields for at least six months and then to continue in school, thus enabling them to apply classroom knowledge to actual work experiences. There is also a high school program where the students work 25 hours per week while attending school.

The District employs 75 Co-Op students, two of whom are high school students. The District presently recruits college Co-Op students from the University of Northern Iowa, Mankato State, University of Minnesota, St. Mary's College, Bemidji, Michigan Technological University, and the University of Wisconsin, LaCrosse, Madison and Platteville. For the first time the District has a graduate program with graduate employees from the University of Minnesota, St. Mary's and Bemidji. The high school students are recruited from high schools in the Twin Cities area.

There are four basic parts of the Co-Operative Educational program. Each has its own qualifications, requirements, pay, and Federal benefits.

A high school Co-Op student is one who is studying full-time for the purpose of earning a high school diploma. The student's appointment must not exceed 1040 hours in a 12 month period. The position is assigned at the GS-1 grade level, and the student has to meet the same requirements as a person applying for the job through the Civil Service Commission, except that testing is waived. A high school Co-Op student is not eligible for Federal health and life insurance benefits.

The Non-baccalaureate Co-Op student is one who is studying full-time at a qualifying 2-year college or technical institute for the purpose of completing an Associates Degree. The student's appointment cannot exceed 120 days following graduation and he/she cannot be enrolled in a Co-Operative Educational program longer than 2½ years. The student is paid in accordance with Civil Service Commission wage schedules, normally at the GS-2 level. Under certain circumstances the student is eligible for Federal health and life insurance benefits.

The Baccalaureate Co-Op student is one who is enrolled in a 4-year college pursuing a baccalaureate curriculum. The student's appointment cannot exceed 90 days following graduation. A Co-Op baccalaureate student works at the GS-4 level and the student under this program is eligible for all the health and life insurance benefits. After graduation, students may qualify for career-conditional appointments.

The graduate Co-Op student is one who has completed all the academic requirements for a Bachelor's Degree and is enrolled in a curriculum related to the occupation to which he/she is appointed. The student's academic program for a Master's Degree must be completed within a 30-month period and for a Ph.D. Degree within a 42-month period. The graduate student works in an excepted conditional appointment which lasts 120 days following graduation. The student may work up to 26 weeks or 1040 hours in a 12 month period, and may be converted to permanent status after graduating with an advanced degree. The Graduate Co-Op student is eligible for health and life insurance benefits.

The recruitment of student employees is coordinated by Richard Laddusire of the Recruitment and Placement Branch with the University's Co-Operative Education Coordinator. The student's schedule may be arranged in a variety of ways. The most desired schedule is to work three months, return to school for a semester and then return to work to complete the Co-Op agreement. A student should complete at least two periods of employment, one of which may be during the summer. The student also must meet certain eligibility requirements. These requirements may vary at different schools. Basically the student must have at least a B average or 3.0 Grade Point Average. Most Universities require the student to submit a written report to the department so they can determine the student's grade for that particular quarter or semester. The student may be given anywhere from one to six University credits for participation in the program. At some Universities, the Co-Op placement may take the place of any field placement which may be required by that particular school.



Are you setting a good example for your kids...



by avoiding cigarettes?



by keeping weight normal?



by serving tasty, low-fat foods?



by seeing your doctor regularly?



by not being a TV athlete...



but by exercising moderately instead?

Help your children form good living habits now
to reduce their risk of heart attack later.

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DON'T FORGET...

The Corps of Engineers' 1978

HOLIDAY PARTY

will be on Friday, December 8th, at McGuire's!!!

Social Hour 6 to 7

Dinner 7 to 8

Dinner this year will be McGuire's fabulous buffet featuring ample quantities of delicious tenderloin tips, fried or baked chicken, and spaghetti and meatballs with all of the trimmings. The cost will be \$12.50 per person. This price includes the meal, tax, gratuities, band, and prizes. Ample free parking is available. Tickets for dancing only will be \$3.00 per person.

Program and Prizes 8 to 9

Dancing 9 to ?

After November 20th, and before December 2nd, see one of the people listed below to purchase your tickets.

Cash Bar All Evening

<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Floor</u>
Pam Hansen	5942	15
Jean Ozik	7583	14
Gwen Spilde	7517	14
Jim Adams	7624	13
Marsha McTamane	7978	13
Cathy Higgins	7505	12
Martin McCleery	7575	12
Frank Star	5936	12
Susan Bjorkquist	5981	11
GERRI KRANZ	7561	11
Terrie Ciurleo	5991	9

**BE THERE!
OKAY?**



McGuire's
Arden Hills
1201 W. County Rd. E