



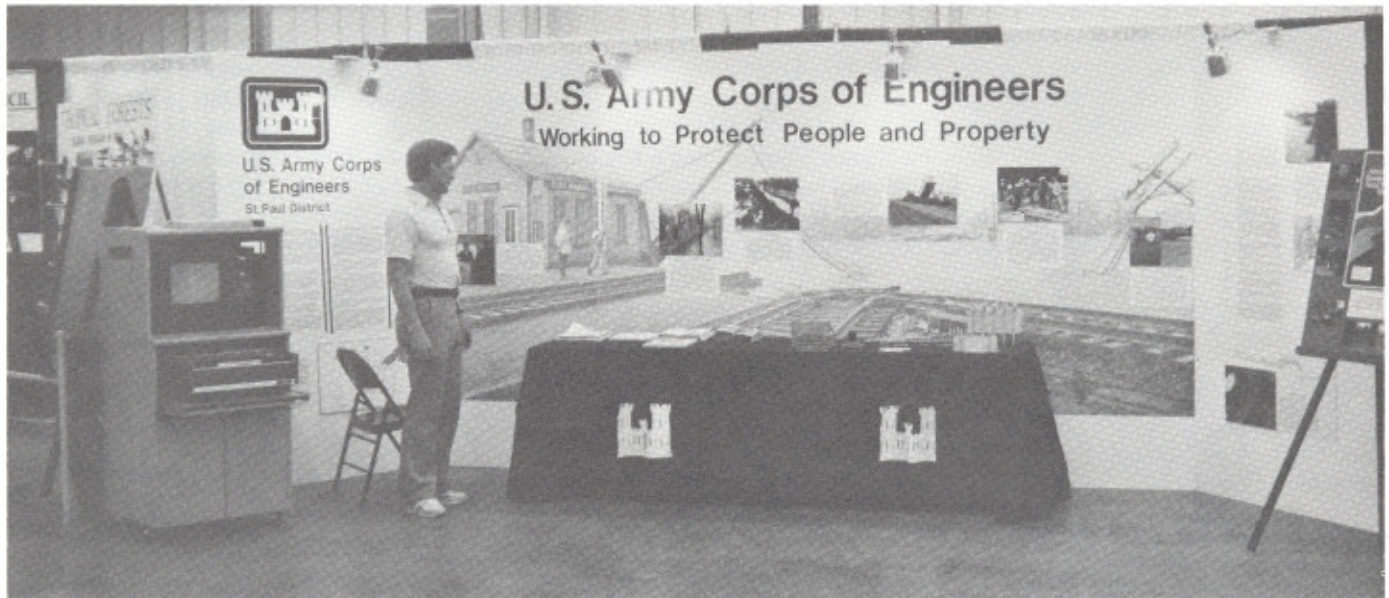
**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

St. Paul District

Crosscurrents

October 1987 Vol. 10 No. 10

Flood fighting exhibit attracts thousands at Fair



Emergency operations was this year's theme for the district's Minnesota State Fair display. The display depicted past floods, flood fighting, training exercises

and the Corps involvement with communities threatened by floods. Two videos were shown on flooding in Minot, N.D. and on the Red River of the North. There

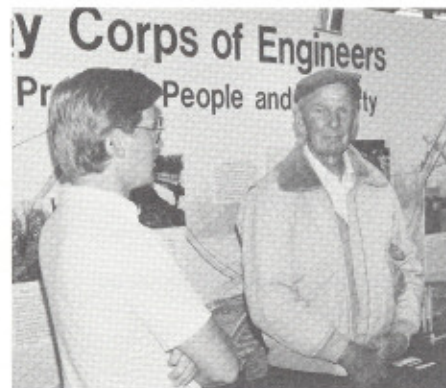
was also a display of table models that showed sandbagging techniques and various types of emergency flood protection.

Photo by Denise Yale



The day before the fair opens is set-up day, and there is always a lot of heavy lifting and moving involved. This year's movers were (from left to right): Dave Christenson, EM; Don Schroder and Terry Schneider, St. Anthony Falls; and Denise Yale, PA.

Photo by Denise Yale



Many of the visitors to the display were former Corps employees. Mark Koenig (left), CO-CC, one of the employees who worked at the fair this year, talked with Eldor Gustafson, who worked for the Corps during 1959-69. Gustafson worked at Fountain City Boatyards and at Hannibal, Mo. He also worked on board the Dredge Thompson as an electrical repairman.

Photo by Denise Yale



LTC David M. Nelson, deputy district commander, holds one of the models that were on display in the Corps booth at the State Fair. The models were developed for the Emergency Management Division to be used at flood fight training sessions and various displays.

Photo by Ken Gardner

Engineering Division wins EEO award

The St. Paul District Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Trophy Award for fiscal years 1986 and 1987 was presented to Engineering Division by COL Joseph Briggs during the Hispanic Heritage Luncheon Program on September 17. Bob Post, the division chief, accepted the trophy for the division.

Engineering Division received the trophy for its accomplishments in equal employment opportunity. COL Briggs said that the division met its affirmative action goals in hiring, established four Upward Mobility positions, supported the Federal Women's Program Manager, exhibited a clear understanding of EEO responsibilities and accepted the mandate of an equally represented workforce.

Bob Post, Pete Fischer (the former division chief), Stan Kumpula (the assistant chief), Bob Fletcher (chief, Design Branch),

Bud Johnson (chief, Geotechnical, Hydraulic and Hydrologic Engineering Branch) and Dale Mazar (chief, Project Management Branch) received individual plaques in recognition of their promotion of the principles and practices of equal employment opportunity.

Holiday Boutique

The Employees Benefit Fund will sponsor a Holiday Boutique on November 2, 3 and 4 in room 1033 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. All past and present Corps employees and their families are invited to participate. Handcrafted items, bakery goods and jams/jellies are but a few of the items that will be for sale. For more information, contact Therese Jaszczak, in the Information Management Division, at 725-7761.

Hispanic luncheon

The St. Paul District Hispanic Program Managers, Nancy Sanchez (Finance and Accounting Branch) and John Mena (Support Services Branch) hosted the Hispanic Luncheon on September 17. A good crowd was on hand for the lunch and the program that followed.

LTC John Garcia, 88th U.S. Army Reserves Command, was the guest speaker. Garcia used the theme, "Hispanics: A Proud History Enhancing America's Future," for his talk. Garcia is also vice president of International Business Planning and Marketing for the Tonka Corporation. COL Briggs presented prizes to the winners of the Hispanic Heritage Quiz at the close of the program. The winners were Debbie Miller Quaas (first prize, a pinata); Mary Hendricks (second prize, a Mexican cookbook); Nick Carter and Bob Mike (third prize, gift certificates from Chi-Chi's restaurant); and Mike Beaupre, Mary Street and Mary Huss (fourth place, chips and salsa).

Corps Calendar

- Oct 4-10 **Employ the Handicapped Week**
Joann Meier, 7481
- Oct 4-10 **Fire Prevention Week**
Ron Scott, 7503
- Oct 12 **Columbus Day**
- Oct 13-30 **Combined Federal Campaign**
CPT Bruce Boldon, 7592
- Oct 14-15 **Channel Maintenance Forum Meeting**
La Crosse, Wis.
Dan Krumholz, 608-687-3011
- Oct 15 **State/Federal Meeting with Upper Mississippi Waterway Association**
La Crosse, Wis.
Harold Taggatz, 7541
- Oct 27-30 **Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material National Workshop**
St. Paul, Minn.
Harold Taggatz, 7541/Bob Whiting, 5934
- Nov 2-4 **EBF Holiday Boutique**
Therese Jaszczak, 7761

CFC begins October 13

"If you don't give, who will?" That question is the theme of this year's Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). As the federal government's annual charitable fund-raising drive, the CFC has helped people in need since 1956. This year, the CFC will run from October 13 to October 30. Office coordinators will contact all district employees soon. CPT Bruce Boldon (725-7592) is the district coordinator.



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*District Engineer Col. Joseph Briggs
Chief, Public Affairs Ken Gardner
Editor Joe Yanta*

General Vander Els visits district



BG Theodore Vander Els, the new North Central Division commander, visited the district office and toured several project areas on August 24-27. In the office Vander Els and COL

Joseph Briggs, district commander, talked with many employees, including Bill Goetz (CO), Mary Rivett (LO) and Lynn Harris (EP).

Photo by William Hutchinson



On August 25, BG Vander Els participated in the dedication of the Velva, N.D., flood control project. Following the dedication, Velva Mayor Ed Bickler presented project engineer Mark Schumaker with a certificate of appreciation

from the community. Afterwards, COL Briggs (left) and Vander Els (right) also congratulated Patty Telehey (of the Velva Project Office) and Schumaker.

Photo by Rosemarie Braatz

Corps values program begins

By Denise Yale
Public Affairs Office

September 16 served as the kick-off day of the values program for the Corps of Engineers.

The purpose of the values program is to reaffirm the organizational values that encompass the Corps of Engineers—integrity, professionalism, quality and esprit de corps. In the new values pamphlet, Lt. Gen. E. R. Heiberg, III, Chief of Engineers states, "Now it is time to reinforce our commitment to Customer Care with a cohesive statement of the purpose of the Army Corps of Engineers and the supporting values which provide a foundation for everything we do. . . These values are not new. Rather they are an affirmation of what the Corps stands for—now and in the future."

The new values program includes a videotape and a pamphlet on values. The videotape will be viewed by all Corps employees during September and October. All employees will receive a copy of the booklet, "To form a more Perfect Corps."

Reaffirmation serves several purposes. According to the booklet, our belief in our purpose and values provided the cohesion necessary for our organization to master the challenges of the past. Reaffirmation will help us in the future. No matter how small or large an employee's job may be, it is a part of and influences a larger whole. Organizational values help give a sense of purpose to an employee's work which helps an individual acquire self-esteem and self-realization.

"By articulating and striving to live these values," Heiberg stated, "we not only continue to shape our organization to achieve excellence and meet its future challenges, but do so in a manner which assures that our ultimate customer—the Nation's taxpayer—is well served."



Sheyenne River flood control project approaches construction

"The vast majority of residents in communities along the Sheyenne River in southeastern North Dakota are in the 100-year floodplain," according to Bob Peniman, the project manager for the Sheyenne River flood control project.

Bill Spychalla, who managed the planning studies for the Sheyenne River project, added that the West Fargo area is "rather unusual" because the "riverbanks are higher than much of the surrounding land." He explained that "areas 6 to 8 blocks from the river could be flooded if the riverbanks are overtopped and the emergency levees fail." Bill also noted that "even the more frequent, less severe floods" can overtop the riverbanks and cause "substantial damages."

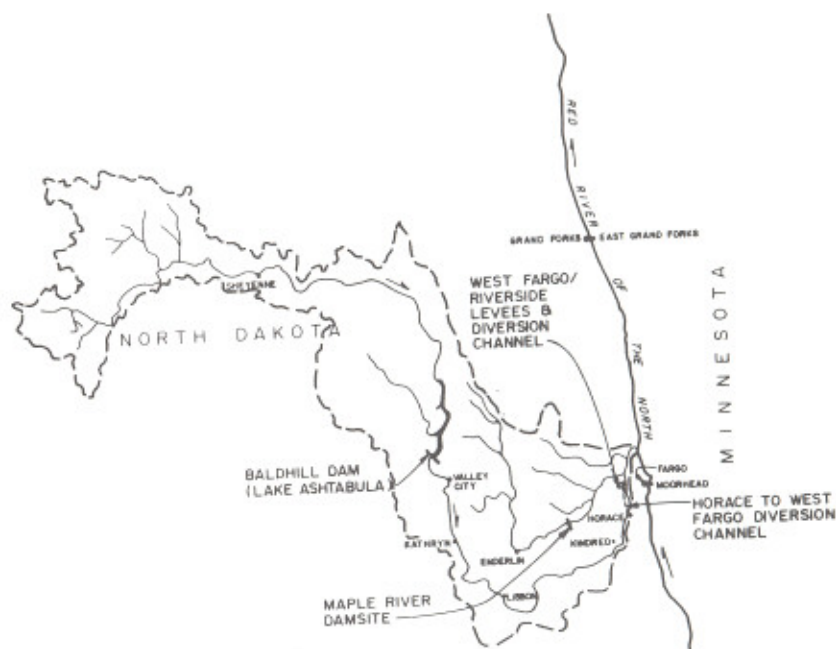
The St. Paul District estimated that damages from a 1-percent-chance flood in the Sheyenne River basin would be more than \$100 million dollars. Average annual flood damages are about \$28 million. Area residents are naturally concerned about these flood damages and have requested Corps of Engineers assistance.

Bob and Bill stressed that the Corps has been trying to solve the flooding problems in this area for a long time and that it has also been involved in many flood fighting efforts in the basin. At one point, the proposed Kindred Dam on the Sheyenne River appeared to be the solution. Congress authorized that project in 1968.

But Kindred Dam was never built. Bob explained that this proposal faced strong opposition from many Sheyenne River basin residents who did not want a new, large reservoir in their area. He also noted that Kindred Dam would have had some significant environmental effects. Consequently, the Corps formed a local advisory board so that it could provide area residents an acceptable flood control plan, and it began to look at other alternatives for flood control—over 100 alternatives, in fact.

After extensive study, the authorized Sheyenne River flood control project consists of four distinct parts. The first part to be built includes levees and a diversion channel at West Fargo and Riverside. Another part is a diversion channel from Horace to West Fargo. The third part involves a 5-foot raise of the flood control pool at the existing Baldhill Dam. Congress added the fourth part to the project in 1986: a dam on the Maple River.

Bob said that each of the parts "is independent of the others, except that the one at Horace cannot be built unless the West Fargo/Riverside diversion is complete. Each part will also require a separate local cooperation agreement."



The Sheyenne River flood control project consists of four separate units: the West Fargo/Riverside levees and diversion channel, the Horace to West Fargo diver-

sion channel, the raise of the Baldhill Dam flood control pool, and a dam on the Maple River.

The Maple River flows into the Sheyenne River just upstream of the point where the Sheyenne and Red Rivers meet. Bob explained that backup flooding from the Red River causes problems on this portion of the Sheyenne. Residents who live north of West Fargo and downstream of the other parts of the project believe that a dam on the Maple River may help reduce their flooding problem. Congress added this dam to the authorized project in the 1986 Water Resources Development Act in response to requests from these residents.

Further studies of the Maple River will begin soon, if funds are available. Bill is the study manager for this part of the project.

Bob and Bill explained that the Maple River dam will require detailed studies. Bill pointed out that the earlier studies looked at several sites for a dam on the Maple River but that these did not appear to be an adequate solution for the flooding problems. Because the area residents are interested in "more complete flood control," the district will look more closely at a dam on the Maple River.

Most of the studies for the rest of the project are complete. Unless the project

changes, the environmental studies for West Fargo/Riverside, Horace and the Baldhill Dam are complete. The record of decision signed in June 1987 was the last step in the environmental documentation. Some final design work remains.

Excluding the Maple River dam, the overall project has benefits that are about six times greater than its costs.

The West Fargo/Riverside work consists of 11.9 miles of levee and a 6.7-mile diversion channel. These flood control measures have very high benefits (about 10 times their costs) and "tremendous local support," according to Bob. He noted that most of the flooding damages in the Sheyenne River basin occur in this area.

Bob pointed out that the local sponsor for the West Fargo/Riverside work, the Southeast Cass Water Management District, has already made extensive preparations. It has prepared the tax base, has held public hearings and will issue bonds to pay for the local share of the project costs.

According to the current schedule, detailed studies for the levees and diversion

Continued on page 7

Treatment Works Section: busy but little known

New studies and new projects are no longer as plentiful in the St. Paul District as they were 10 years ago. But one office that did not even exist 10 years has no shortage of projects now. It administers 152 projects worth a total of \$1.2 billion in federal money.

Yet, even though this office has so many projects, it may cease to exist after 1994.

What is this office? It is relatively little known - the EPA Treatment Works Section of Construction Branch.

One reason many district employees know little about this section is its location. The section is on the 9th floor, away from most offices in the district. Another reason is that the treatment works program is comparatively new and is distinct from other Corps programs.

According to Bruce Ragan, the section chief, the origin of the section goes back to the 1972 Clean Water Act, 6 years before the section came into being. Bruce characterized this law as an attempt "to clean up" our nation's rivers and lakes "and make them fishable and swimmable." It provided 75 federal percent funding to municipalities to construct or upgrade sewage treatment facilities. The original law provided \$5 billion annually, with the program scheduled to end in 15 years (by 1988).

Bruce likened the treatment works program to the Interstate Highway program. Both are extensive federally funded efforts implemented primarily by the states or local governments, with the overall program managed by a federal agency.

However, the treatment works program did not go as smoothly as intended, Bruce explained. He noted that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the federal overseer for the program, did not have the specialized engineering and construction expertise required for such a program. Most of the state environmental agencies (such as the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) also did not have the specialized expertise that the program required. "Congress envisioned this program being turned over to the states, like the highway program," Bruce said, "but that didn't work."

Congress, Bruce explained, decided the program had to change: EPA would have to expand its own staff, give the program to a new agency or use the expertise of an existing agency.

This point is where the Corps entered the picture. In 1978, it began administering the treatment works program for the EPA.



Joel Rogers, Joe Skupa and Bruce Ragan (left to right) review treatment works proposals for bidability and constructability.

Although the Corps had extensive experience in the types of contract administration, construction review and management required by this program, it still had to set up a new organization.

According to Bruce, the treatment works program varies considerably "from state to state and from division to division within the Corps." It does not follow traditional Corps district and division boundaries, which generally are determined by drainage basins. Instead, for this program, the Corps realigned its divisions to match the EPA regions. North Central Division works with region V of EPA (both are based in Chicago). This region covers Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

In the St. Paul District, this program was assigned to a new section in the Construction Branch of Construction-Operations Division. It is a large section, larger than many branches, with 29 people and four project offices, a substantial budget and responsibility for additional billions in grant dollars.

Rick Rothbauer helps oversee the grant management function, and Joel Rogers helps manage the bidability/constructability reviews. Fred Kelly manages the Twin Cities (South St. Paul) project office. Randy Sitton manages the Milwaukee project office. Richard Martig manages the Rochester project office. And Voltaire Serra manages the Grand Rapids project office. The Appleton, Wis., office has closed, and the Duluth office has moved to Grand Rapids.

The St. Paul District formerly administered this program throughout Minnesota and Wisconsin, although now it manages the program in Minnesota and Milwaukee. Because of the size and scope of the projects

posals for bidability and constructability.

Photo by Joe Yunta

in Milwaukee, the State of Wisconsin wanted one office to manage the program and administer the state and federally funded grants there. The section administers grants for 83 projects in Minnesota worth \$263 million and for 69 projects in the Milwaukee area worth \$908 million.

Bruce explained that the section performs three major functions in Minnesota for federally funded sewage treatment projects: (1) review of plans and specifications for bidability and constructability, (2) project inspections during construction and (3) grant management. It formerly performed these same functions throughout Wisconsin, but now does them in Milwaukee for both federally and state funded treatment works projects. The state funded program there is patterned after the federal program.

The Milwaukee office of the section also handles a fourth function: contract administration and review and approval of contract modifications. Bruce noted that this work involves approximately 300 modifications worth \$5 to \$10 million annually. He explained that this work is especially important to the state of Wisconsin because it is "under a court order to accelerate its program."

Bruce stressed that the work of the section is intensive. To get the most out of each dollar administered, the section reviews projects thoroughly before they are built and during construction.

He explained that the constructability/bidability reviews try to ensure that the plans and specifications and other "project documents are complete, that the project can

Continued on page 8

Peter A. Fischer elected to Hall of Fame

Peter A. Fischer is the newest member of the St. Paul District Hall of Fame. COL Joseph Briggs, the district commander, announced the selection at the Retirees Reunion on September 16.

At the time of his retirement in January 1987, Fischer was the chief of engineering division. In that role, he had responsibility for many projects involving hundreds of millions of dollars, including the rehabilitation of locks and dam 1 plus flood control projects for Mankato, Rochester, Winona, Bassett Creek, the Souris River and many other areas. Before becoming division chief in 1980, Fischer was assistant division chief, chief of Hydraulic Engineering and Foundation Materials Branch, chief of Hydraulics Branch and a section chief in the Hydraulics Branch. He began his career with the Corps

in 1955 as a civil engineer. His first job with the federal government, however, was as a highway engineer trainee with the Bureau of Public Roads in 1953-1954.

Fischer's nomination described him as "a highly respected engineer" who "worked extremely hard on improving quality assurance and providing a quality product for the Corps of Engineers. He was a role model and a strong supporter of his engineering staff, encouraging them to become professionally registered."

During his career, Fischer won many awards and honors, including the Meritorious Civilian Service Award in 1969 and the Civil Servant of the Year in 1983. He was also a finalist for the Corps Civilian of the Year Award that year. In 1986, he was the Corps nominee for the National Society of

Professional Engineers Federal Engineer of the Year. After his retirement, he kept winning awards. In addition to the Hall of Fame membership, he shared the district's 1986 and 1987 EEO award.



COL Joseph Briggs congratulates Pete Fischer on his election to the District Hall of Fame.
Photo by Dale Lynch

12th Annual Retirees Reunion

The 12th Annual Retirees Reunion was held September 16 at the New Prom Expo Center in downtown St. Paul. Ninety-three retirees, former and present employees, and friends attended. Among those attending were Lester Mericle, who was the oldest retiree there (90 years), and a number of other retirees who began their careers with the Corps during the 1920's and 1930's.

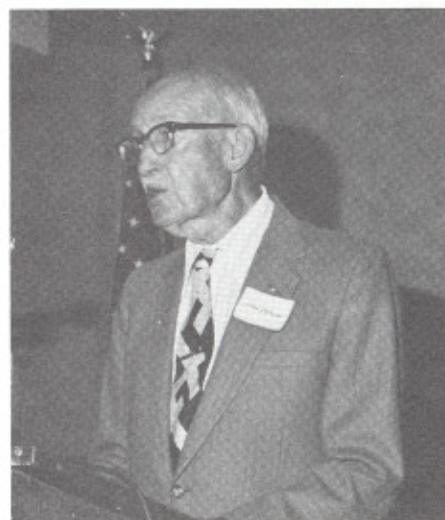
John DeFord, formerly an attorney in the district office, was the master of ceremonies. He characterized the retirees as "a family, or union, bound together by common experiences over the years." He also described them as an "elite group" that should "feel proud...of the part that the Corps played in the development of this great nation."

COL Joseph Briggs, the district commander, was the main speaker. He reviewed high water problems on the Great Lakes, personnel changes in the district office and

projects that the District is working on, including Lake Pulaski, Mankato, Bassett Creek, the Souris River, Rochester and the Sheyenne River.

He also announced the newly elected member of the District Hall of Fame, Peter A. Fischer, who retired as chief of Engineering Division in January 1987. And he asked the retirees to "stay in touch and join us whenever you can." In particular, he invited anyone who has information, documents or artifacts for the Corps history program to contact John Anfinson, the district historian, at 725-7854.

Many retirees worked to make the reunion a success. In addition to John DeFord, they included his wife, Ellenore DeFord; Connie McGinley; Velma Guesmer; Harry and Glad Anderson; Wes and Jo Walters; and other volunteers.



John DeFord was the master of ceremonies for the reunion.
Photo by Dale Lynch



Otto Benz, Al Thurow and Bill Pagel (left to right) showed that the annual reunion is a time to meet old friends and make new ones.
Photo by Dale Lynch



"And a good time was had by all," testified Dolores Schuster. Rita Langley, Dolores, and Margaret Kincaid (left to right) were among the many retirees who enjoyed the reunion.
Photo by Dale Lynch

What does the Constitution mean to you?

On September 17, 1987, the United States celebrated the 200th anniversary of the signing of its Constitution. Although most of the official celebrations of that event are now over, the Constitution remains a living document. It affects the lives of all Americans in many ways. The following list shows some of the major ways that the Constitution benefits the people of the United States.

It provides for regular elections and an orderly succession of leadership.

It divides the national government into three branches—each with separate authority and responsibilities.

It appoints the president as commander-in-chief of the armed forces.

It establishes one Supreme Court of the United States.

It makes you a citizen of the United States, if you are native born or if you comply with naturalization laws.

It makes you a citizen of the State where you reside.

It prohibits individual states from denying to citizens of another state the privileges and immunities it grants to its own citizens.

It requires each state to give full faith and credit to the laws, records and judicial proceedings of every other state.

It guarantees your freedom to practice the religion of your choice.

It protects your right to a free press and free speech.

It guarantees your right to assemble peaceably and ask the government to remedy your wrongs.

It guarantees your right to vote, if you are at least 18 years old.

It prohibits the government from taking your property for public use without just compensation.

It prohibits the government from depriving you of life, liberty or property without due process of law.

It prohibits the government from denying you the equal protection of the law.

It prohibits the government from searching your person, belongings or home without probable cause.

It prevents you from being arrested and detained by law enforcement officials unless you are informed of the nature and cause of the accusation against you, and when you are accused or are being tried for a crime:

it provides you the authority to compel witnesses to appear on your behalf.

it grants you the right to a speedy, public trial by jury in the state and district where the crime was committed.

it allows you to decline to testify against yourself.

it guarantees your right to a defense counsel.

it forbids the imposition of excessive bail.

it forbids the imposition of cruel and unusual punishment.

it prohibits the government from trying you again for the same crime once you have been acquitted.

It prohibits slavery or involuntary servitude.

It provides for its amendment upon approval by three-fourths of the state legislatures or state constitutional conventions.

Rangers celebrate Bicentennial

By Denise Yale
Public Affairs Office

The Bicentennial of the Constitution is being celebrated in many different ways all over the nation and employees at the headwaters projects have developed their own method of celebration.

The park rangers at the six headwaters recreation areas have been presenting interpretive programs on the Constitution since July 4. The rangers, dressed in early American costumes, presented a program every Saturday. They explained the Constitution and its significance and at the end of the presentation handed out copies of the Constitution to the attendees.

Attendance for the programs ran from 2 to 100 people. "We received really positive comments about the program," Jim Ruyak, Headwaters Project Manager, said. "People even asked to have their pictures taken with the rangers who were in costumes."

A lot of preparation went into the program. The rangers received training from Judge Robert Ryan from the district court in Brainerd, Minn. He explained the technical aspects of the constitution, as well as its meaning and practical applications. Sandy Middleton, a speech instructor, and

Peggy Blean, assistant provost, from Brainerd Community College designed the program, and the college donated the costumes used by the rangers.

The rangers have given special presentations at area celebrations such as Remer Harvest Festival, Federal Dam Days and Wild Rice Days at McGregor. The program was presented in six schools in the headwaters area on September 17 and 18. It has become very popular in the headwaters area and several local organizations have asked if it could be presented at their meetings.

It was also presented in the district office during four sessions on September 16. The presenters at the district sessions were Jim Sandberg and Steve Tapp, Mankato Co-op students who worked as summer employees at Crosslake. Steve Tapp, left his temporary employment behind when he took the ranger position at Baldhill Dam in September.

There is one more unique aspect to the headwaters Bicentennial program. One of the references that was used for the program was a booklet called "Our Constitution and What it Means." It was published for schools and was co-authored by Dr. William A. Kottmeyer and Thomas F. Eagleton. Dr. Kottmeyer is the father of Kirk Kottmeyer, a ranger at Leech Lake.

Sheyenne River flood, continued from page 4

will be completed in March 1988. The local cooperation agreement will be submitted to the North Central Division in October 1987. Plans and specifications will be completed by November 1988.

If Congress appropriates funds and if this money is allocated for a new construction start, construction of this part of the project could begin in June 1989.

The Horace to West Fargo work includes 7.4 miles of flood diversion channel. This channel can be built once the West Fargo work is complete, but Bob explained that the future of the Horace project is uncertain.

Although this channel has benefits that are about twice its costs, Bob pointed out that the number of property owners who would have to pay may be too small to bear the local share of these costs.

Bob described the future of the Baldhill Dam pool raise as even more uncertain. This part of the project involves a 5-foot raise of the flood control pool at the existing Baldhill Dam on the Sheyenne River. Although benefits exceed the costs of this part of the project, Bob said that the most critical issues are local support and local sponsorship. He stressed that these issues must be resolved before the existing flood control pool can be raised.

Around the district

By Ken Gardner

Public Affairs Office

By the time this issue of Crosscurrents is distributed, many district people will have participated in the new "Corps Values" program. The rest will see the videotape by the end of the month.

This new emphasis on "Corps Values" comes straight from the chief's office and reminds me a little of a program instituted nearly 10 years ago by another chief. In that case it was the chief of the Forest Service who instituted his "Host" training program for all Forest Service employees.

In sending the "Host" program to the field, the Forest Service chief delivered a strong message to all his people from top management to people assigned to the remotest field site. In essence, he said, "If we want our organization to survive, we must change the way we do business." He was referring to how they dealt with people—all kinds of people, including forest visitors, contractors, and even employees.

The Forest Service's "Host" training was a major effort—as is the "Corps Values" program—that included 4-hour mandatory training each year for every employee. That was a big commitment of resources and indicated how important the chief considered the program.

The Forest Service chief's message was blunt and to the point—the future of the organization depended on improving how employees treated the people they dealt with in their daily business. His message was basically "We are doing a good job on our technical jobs—managing the national forests—but we need to greatly improve the way we do our people jobs."

The Forest Service's "Host" program was a recognition nearly 10 years ago that the Forest Service existed because it provided a needed service to the people.

This point is even more true for the Corps of Engineers today, now that the people we serve are paying more for our services up front through the new cost sharing rules in effect.

When the people we serve begin to think that we don't care about them, the Corps (or any agency, for that matter) is in trouble.

Now, this doesn't mean that we (as individuals or as an agency) should only do what pleases our customers. We must continue to follow accepted and sound engineering practices, proper procurement procedures, and necessary financial controls, among other things.

However, it does mean that when we talk about "Corps Values"—professionalism, quality effort, integrity, and esprit, we must

consider those important and necessary values in terms of our customers. If we deal with our customers in a professional manner, give them a quality product and quality service, and maintain the highest level of individual and organizational integrity, the result has to be good customer care. And, in turn, we will achieve the fourth "Corps Value"—esprit—by knowing that we have done a good technical job and a good people job.

Now, off of my soapbox and on to other matters.

Last month's column mentioned some historically significant documents dating back to 1854. These documents included letters from President Franklin Pierce and Secretary of War Jefferson Davis. Specific credit for discovering these documents belongs to DonYel Erickson of Real Estate Division. DonYel found them while going through old files and notified the district historian, John Anfinson.

While we're on the subject of surprising discoveries, we sometimes hear about ac-

tivities of our retirees through a variety of sources, but word of Carl Anderson's doings came to us in an unusual way. Our newspaper clipping service sent us a clipping from the Crosby-Ironton Courier in Crow Wing County. The article described the annual meeting of the Minnesota Forestry Association held in August near Deerwood.

According to the article, Carl is one of 2,100 tree farmers in Minnesota and, at 91, was the "eldest conference participant." Carl was named a regional finalist in the group's "Tree Farmer of the Year" program for his management of his 40-acre farm near Rush City. Among other jobs, Carl was in charge of the Gull Lake Dam and Reservoir from 1934 to 1937.

Finally, Al Bjorkquist has accepted a position with the Wilmington District in North Carolina. Al is a planner in Flood Plain Management and Small Projects Branch.

And that is what's happening around the district this month.

Treatment Works Section, continued from page 5

be built, that the project can be bid, that contingencies are reduced, . . . that the project employs standard construction methods, and that all the necessary clauses are included for the administration of the contract as well as for construction."

Project inspections are frequent, usually at least monthly during construction and sometimes four or five a month for certain projects. Bruce stressed that these inspections are not just "paperwork exercises" but are for "quality assurance."

Grant administration assists the EPA in management of the program and helps that agency prepare its annual budget submissions to Congress.

The contract modification review ensures that any change orders are necessary and reasonable, that the cost is minimized and that the action is eligible for a grant.

As a result of the section's work, many communities in Minnesota and Wisconsin have or will soon have modern sewage treatment facilities that do not pollute the environment in the way that the old facilities did, and many rivers and lakes in the area are becoming cleaner.

Despite the section's heavy workload, Bruce noted, the program is scheduled to end after 1994. Work on some of the most critical projects, such as those in Duluth and

at the Twin Cities Pig's Eye Waste Treatment Plant, is now complete. High priority projects, such as the Combined Sewer Outflow separation project for the Twin Cities and the remaining Milwaukee projects, will be emphasized. Many smaller projects in Minnesota are also scheduled.

Bruce also explained that other program changes will begin in fiscal year 1989. Up to now, the federal money in the program has been given in the form of grants. But for 2 years beginning in 1989, half of that money will be in the form of state administered loans that local governments must repay to the states. The funding level will stay the same as it has been the last few years, however, at \$2.4 billion nationwide.

In fiscal year 1991, all the money will come through the state administered loans. The next year, the amount will begin to decrease (\$1.8 billion in 1992, \$1.2 billion in 1993 and \$0.6 billion in 1994). After 1994, the program will cease unless Congress and the administration decide otherwise.

As the program winds down, the people working in it will probably be reassigned to other jobs within the Corps, where they can tell their coworkers about the good old days in the EPA Treatment Works Section.