



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
St. Paul District

# Crosscurrents

Vol. 16, No. 10

November 1993

## District moves to new Army Corps of Engineers Centre

During the weekend of October 16-17, the St. Paul District headquarters completed its move to the new Army Corps of Engineers Centre at Fifth and Sibley Streets in St. Paul's Lowertown area.

The recently renovated building consolidates 450 headquarters employees into one building, offers accessibility for the handicapped, and improves working conditions for employees.

Some 80 employees of the district's Construction-Operations Division have been located in the building since 1988. About 370 employees moved from the old district office, which has been in the Post Office and Customs House Building on Kellogg Boulevard for 53 years. The district had occupied 85,000 square feet at the Post Office.

The district now occupies 103,000 square feet on more than four floors of the eight-story building. In keeping with the building's new name, the distinctive red flag with white castle of the Corps of Engineers now flies above the new Fifth Street entrance.

The renovated building offers air conditioning, improved lighting, systems office furniture, and provides additional space for previously cramped quarters.

*(For your reference, clip and save We've Moved! on page 2. )*



Photo by Ken Gardner

Flags for Army Corps of Engineers and the United States fly side-by-side at the main entrance to the Army Corps of Engineers Centre. The new headquarters location offers skyway access throughout downtown St. Paul. For more photos of the move, see page 3.



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St. Paul District

## We've Moved!

The St. Paul District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has moved to its new home in the *Army Corps of Engineers Centre*. Our new address is:

**St. Paul District, US Army Corps of Engineers  
Army Corps of Engineers Centre  
190 Fifth Street East  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1638**

Our telephone numbers have also changed. Our new prefix is (612) 290-5XXX. The last three digits remain the same as our current numbers. Some key telephone numbers are listed for your convenience:

Executive Office -	290-5300	Deputy for Project Mgmt -	290-5298
Engineering Division -	290-5303	Construction-Operations -	290-5310
Planning Division -	290-5307	Logistics Management -	290-5222
Office of Counsel -	290-5500	Contracting Division -	290-5414
Human Resources -	290-5488	Real Estate Division -	290-5390
Public Affairs -	290-5200	Information Management -	290-5690
Safety Office -	290-5501	Equal Employment Opport -	290-5382
Water Control -	290-5617	Regulatory (Permits) Branch -	290-5376
Resource Mgmt. -	290-5234		

## Have gifts, will travel



St. Paul District photo

Sally Lunsford (left) from Office of Counsel departed St. Paul on October 4 to spend three weeks volunteering her time and talents to care for five babies at a village hospital in Tutova, Romania. Thanks to several "baby showers" put on by headquarters employees, friends and members of her church, Lunsford and four others took 13 duffel bags stuffed with needed items. Upon her return, she described hospital conditions as "primitive." To the right of Lunsford are Jean Schmidt, librarian, and Yvonne Berner, environmental protection specialist. The East European Children's Fund sponsors the program.

## Correction



The October issue of *Crosscurrents* mistakenly identified the above retirees' reunion attendees. The photo actually shows (left to right) Mary Rivett, Jacqueline Petersen and Delores Sudeith. The editor regrets the error. The reunion was held in St. Paul on Sept. 9.

# St. Paul District employees have their moving moments

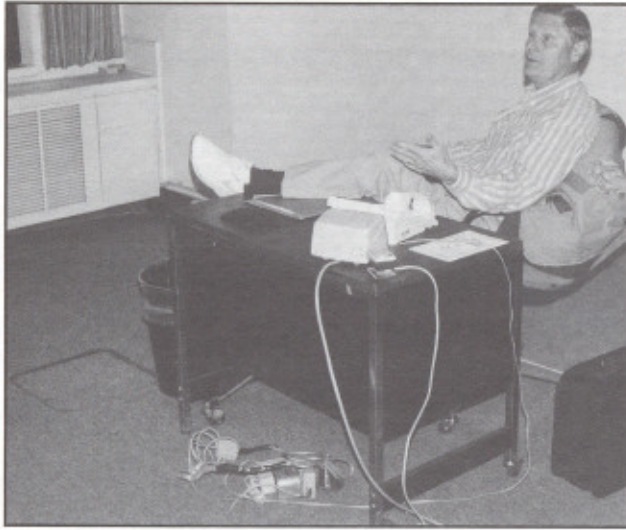


Photo by Ken Gardner

Lou Kowalski, chief of Planning Division, is pictured in his old office on the 12th floor of the Post Office the week of October 11. When the bulk of his furniture had been moved, he was left with a small make-shift desk and telephone.



Photo by Peter Versteegen

Dave DePoint (center) from Emergency Management was the move manager. Here he talks to the movers as they load a van on October 15 outside the Post Office.

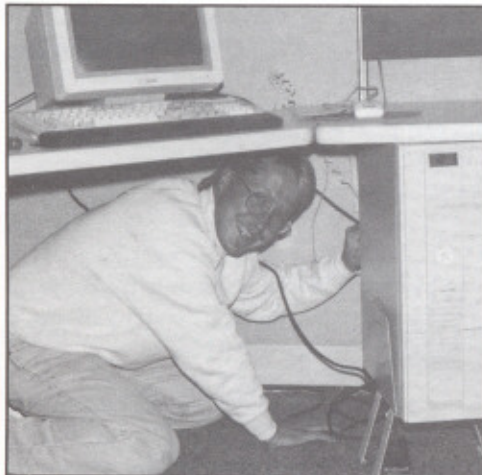


Photo by Peter Versteegen

Kevin Bluhm, an economist in Planning Division (PD), hooks up a computer during the move into the new Army Corps of Engineers Centre.



Photo by Peter Versteegen

Kris Fairbanks, a secretary in Environmental Resources, takes one last phone call as she packs up to leave the Post Office.

## St. Paul District represents Corps Headquarters at national Girl Scouts convention held in Minneapolis



St. Paul District photo

Staffing a new Corps display are (left to right) Amy Zelenak, a staffing assistant with Human Resources, Chris Schmitz, a civil engineer with Design Branch and Mary Kay Larson, a park ranger at Gull Lake. They and

five other district employees represented the Corps at the 46th Girl Scout National Convention in Minneapolis from October 21 to 24.

by Peter Versteegen  
Public Affairs specialist

"A lot of young woman stopped by the Corps of Engineers booth to express interest in engineering careers or math and science," said Judy DesHarnais, a civil engineer with Engineering Management. DesHarnais and seven others represented the Corps of Engineers at the Girl Scout National Convention in Minneapolis on October 21-24.

The theme of the Corps' exhibit is "Experience the Spirit of the Corps."

The Corps' Directorate of Human Resources developed the display as a corporate recruitment and career information exhibit.

The district staffed the booth for Corps Headquarters and handed out brochures to illustrate career opportunities with the Corps.

"This is an outstanding opportunity to represent the Corps to a group working with young women," said Jimmy F. Bates, acting Director of Civil Works. "It will create an awareness of the

career, educational, and service opportunities for women in the Corps and help to insure the diversity of the future Corps work force."

Also representing the Corps were Shelly Shafer from Eau Galle Lake and Mary Kay Larson from Gull Lake; Amy Zelenak and Linda Krueger from Human Resources; Christine Schmitz, Doris Sullivan from Engineering Division; and Linda Wiley from Planning Division.

## District employees support CFC

by Pam Spann  
Public Affairs clerk

"Through our CFC (Combined Federal Campaign) donations, we will be helping to feed the hungry, find shelter for the homeless, earmark money for clinical research, or open the door of opportunity for the disabled." So said Mary Clarkson, chairperson of the 1993 Combined Federal Campaign at the start of this year's campaign.

Coffee breaks, balloons, books and gift certificates heightened employee awareness and enthusiasm of the CFC through October. When it was all over, services provided by non-profit organizations supported by CFC contributions benefited a great many people not only in our communities but on an international scale as well.

Each year the CFC gives employees a window of opportunity to contribute to non-profit charitable organizations of their choice, either by payroll deductions, check or cash. "The benefits of supporting the CFC provide personal satisfaction for giving to someone in need. The pay back is what you feel inside," said Clarkson.

The CFC was surrounded by activities like "Bake Break," a book sale and the "Balloon Message Center." This year's goal was \$35,000.

There was also an incentive - gift certificates donated by local businesses were awarded by random drawing to employees who submitted pledge cards.

Last year the CFC exceeded the \$30,200 goal by more than \$3,100. Employee contributions averaged \$65.



Photos by Peter Versteegen

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) "Bake Break" on October 26 raised over \$200 for the CFC. As of press time, district employees had pledged over \$22,000 toward the \$35,000 goal. From left are Chris Schmitz, a civil engineer with Design Branch, Bill Vennemann, a realty specialist in Real Estate and Ken Gardner, chief of Public Affairs. District employees donated food for the break.



The CFC book sale raised \$55 on October 26. Participating in the sale are (from left) Vicki Fetterly, Julie Ritter and Lynn Stebe. Ritter works in Real Estate's Planning and Control Branch. Stebe and Fetterly work as program support assistants in Engineering Management Branch.

## Team inspects Locks and Dams 6, 7

"The goal of our periodic inspections is to make sure that our locks and dams will not have deficiencies or structural problems for the next five years," said Steve Sandquist, a team member from Engineering Management Branch. The team visited Locks and Dams 6 and 7 on September 15-16 to do a routine inspection of physical deficiencies. When an inspection is done, the team recommends corrective action on major and minor items. A team inspects sites every five years and is composed of a cross-section of disciplines from the district, North Central Division, and outside consulting engineers.



Photo by Peter Versteegen

Assorted members of the site inspection team gather early on September 15 at Lock and Dam No. 7 near LaCrescent, Minnesota. From left are Jan Plachta and Jim McHenry from North Central Division, Chris Behling from Geotechnical Design Section, Steve Sandquist from Engineering Management Branch, and Tony Fares from Design Branch. Mike Leshner from Hydraulics Section was also present.

## Big Sandy staff completes successful summer season

by Brian Bigaouette  
Co-op student

If creativity springs from adversity, then this year's record spring and summer rainfall inspired co-op students John Larsson and Brian Bigaouette.

They assembled a variety of creative hands-on interpretive programs at Sandy Lake Dam to keep visitors active despite the adverse weather.

The students designed a number of programs, from wildlife interpretation to the construction of wood duck houses to teach the public about the preservation and protection of our wildlife and natural resources. The programs involved visitors and made for a more enjoyable and educational experience.

Also new at Sandy, the entire staff has taken the initiative to adopt a two-mile stretch of highway running adjacent to Corps of Engineers boundaries. So far the volunteer program is a great success and delivers a positive message to the public.

Extensive remodeling over the past two years will soon come to a close with the completion of a new office roof. The two-year remodeling process provided Sandy with new offices, a break room, interpretive center, and a visitor assistance/information center. Completion of the roof is expected sometime this month.

Also, plans are currently underway to add a new picnic pavilion next year. The pavilion will replace the old dam operator dwelling that was taken down last July.

But until then, we are eager to continue this year's great success and look forward to the same success in years to come.

### Ken Harrell retires



Ken Harrell retired from Regulatory Branch this October after 16 years with the district.

### Linda Kirts at Walla Walla



Linda Kirts left this October to become chief counsel for Walla Walla District

### Al Kraft retires



Al Kraft retired from Human Resources this October after 17 years as district training officer.

## Bits and Pieces

### Otto receives award

In recognition of professional achievement in the field of parks and recreation, Area Resource Manager Dick Otto received the National Society for Park Resources William Penn Mott Jr. Award for Excellence. Otto received the award on behalf of the Recreation Work Group of the River Resources Forum at the annual awards luncheon in San Jose, California, October 21.

Frank Star, recreation planner, nominated the Recreation Work Group for the award. Otto is the chairperson of the work group. Initiated in 1971, the prestigious award is presented annually to two individuals and to two agency groups. The award acknowledges success in joint problem solving and interagency cooperation on the Mississippi River. Otto works out of the Mississippi River Area office in La Crescent, Minnesota. He has chaired the work group for five years.

### Winter awards event scheduled

The annual holiday awards luncheon and party is scheduled for the Southview Country Club, 239 E. Mendota Rd. in West St. Paul on Friday, December 17. Jan Graham at 290-5305 is the point of contact for retirees.

Engineering Division is coordinating the event. Committee members are Chuck Spitzack, Greg Frankosky, Marlin Munter, Jim Mosner, Tom Sully, Ross Metzger, and George Fortune from Design Branch, plus Mike Osterby from Cost Engineering Branch.

### Three represent Corps at career fair

Scott Baker from Construction Branch, Ann Midje from Design Branch and Jan Wallace from Human Resources represented the Corps of Engineers at the 1993 IT Career Fair at the University of Minnesota on October 6. The fair provided exposure for the district to over 2,000 science and engineering students at the university. The fair was sponsored by the Society of Woman Engineers.

### Navigation season closes November 29

Navigation season on the Upper Mississippi River is scheduled to close on November 29 when Lock and Dam No. 2 in Hastings, Minnesota, closes for construction of a new control building and a complete re-wiring of the facility. The work is part of the major maintenance and major rehabilitation program. During the 1993-94 non-navigation season, Lock and Dam No. 6 at Trempealeau, Wisconsin will be dewatered for major repairs. Lock No. 6 is scheduled to close to navigation on December 1. The installation of new lock machinery at Lock and Dam No. 7 is also scheduled to begin December 1.

### Test results positive in effort to control purple loosestrife

Researchers from Waterways Experiment Station, with the help of personnel from the Mississippi River Area Office and the Fish and Wildlife Service's Winona District, report positive results in using target specific herbicide to control the noxious weed purple loosestrife.

With the first field testing season ending, the herbicide killed or reduced growth of purple loosestrife in test plots. In control plots that had no herbicide, purple loosestrife grew to nearly seven feet and desirable species did poorly. The weed threatens many wetlands across the country.

### Fall navigation study newsletter published

The September 1993 issue of the Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway System Navigation Study newsletter is now in circulation.

The newsletter features an insert for comments and highlights progress on the navigation study, the "Great Flood of 1993," the impacts of the flood on transportation, engineering study updates and provides information regarding public meetings.

An interactive telephone system is on-line 24-hours a day for comments and messages. Phone 1-800-872-8822.

### Obituary

Ron Tuura, age 45, a structural engineer in Design Branch, died Friday, October 8, after a brief hospitalization at St. Paul Ramsey Hospital. He began his 15-year career with the Corps on July 31, 1978. He is survived by his wife, Nancy; daughter, Carly; his sons David and Lucas; his father, Willard Tuura and mother, Irene Parenteau; his sister, Patricia Mattson and grandmother, Verna Pellman.

*Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works***Edward Dickey views habitat projects**

Photo by Don Powell

Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works Edward Dickey visited nine Environmental Management Program (EMP) projects in the district on October 12-13. Dickey's objective was to gain a better understanding of the region and its resources. In the above photo, Dickey, second to right, views the Finger Lakes Project on the Mississippi River from Buena Vista Overlook in Alma, Wisconsin. At left is Joan Albert, habitat project manager and chief of Central Planning Management Branch at North Central Division (NCD) in Chicago. At right is John D'Aniello, chief of Planning and Engineering at NCD. Dickey visited projects at Pool 9, Lansing Big Lake, Pool 8 islands, Blackhawk Park, Lake Onalaska, Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge, Peterson Lake and Long Meadow Lake. He also visited the Environmental Management Technical Center (EMTC) operated by the U.S. Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Service at Lake Onalaska, Wisconsin. The Corps of Engineers funds the EMTC under the EMP.

**Hello****Construction-Operations Division**

Ilyana M. Cortez, office automation clerk

**Engineering Division**

Guy K. Paquette, drill rig operator helper

**Human Resources Division**

Lucaina C. Kelly, office automation clerk

**Planning Division**

Annette M. Wolf, secretary (typing)

**Good-bye****Information Management Office**

Tracy A. Stoehr, office automation clerk

**Planning Division**

Christopher J. Hildrum, student trainee

Ann M. Schaefer, sociologist

**Engineering Division**

Roger A. Just, civil engineer

**Construction-Operations Division**

Larry P. Albrightson, laborer  
 Justin J. Campbell, summer aid  
 Travis J. Carico, summer aid  
 Corey W. Cleveland, summer aid  
 Karen L. Cress, office automation clerk  
 Ryan K. Drinkwitz, summer aid  
 Michael A. Emmons, lock and dam operator  
 George M. Hahn, lock and dam operator  
 Craig M. Herrmann, summer aid  
 Kenneth I. Hovell, lock and dam operator  
 Scott R. Iverson, summer aid  
 Matthew B. Jorstad, summer aid  
 James D. Klatt, lock and dam operator  
 Aaron S. Larson, summer aid  
 Cheryl A. Linder, summer aid  
 Richard W. Mattson, lock and dam operator  
 Christ J. McCarthy, summer aid  
 Larry D. McClellan, laborer  
 Karen M. McCullough, civil engineer  
 Thomas P. Mikrut, lock and dam operator  
 Steven L. Moore, lock and dam operator  
 Curtis W. Palmer, lock and dam operator  
 Andrea M. Ramberg, office automation clerk  
 Becky L. Soukup, office automation clerk  
 Donald R. Thompson, lock and dam equipment mechanic  
 Roger J. Weaver, chief engineer  
 Gregory L. Yale, lock and dam operator

**US Army Corps of Engineers**

St. Paul District

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# Crosscurrents

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