

# Yankee Engineer

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*Building Strong*

®



**Boston Area Military Entrance Processing  
Station Renovation Nearly Complete**

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# Yankee Voices



Adam Burnett and John Kennedy

## 2016 Combined Federal Campaign

The 2016 Combined Federal Campaign is underway. You can choose from more than 24,000 participating charities throughout the United States and overseas. Each of these organizations has been vetted, so you can be confident that they meet the CFC eligibility requirements and public accountability standards.

The easiest way to give is by payroll deduction through the DOD MyPay website (<https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>). A link to the MyPay website also is available on the CFC webpage (<http://easternmasscfc.org/>) under "Pledge."

Please use Agency Code 168000 when completing your pledge card. Anyone wishing to make a one-time donation must use the paper forms for making their donation. If you need a paper pledge form you will need to print it out from the CFC (<http://rimactcfc.org/>). The list of charities is available on the CFC website (<http://rimactcfc.org/>).

The 2016 Campaign will run through Dec. 15. Questions, contact Jackie DiDomenico - CFC Coordinator, Ext. 448.

## Former New England Division Engineer receives ENR Magazine Legacy Award



Col. (ret.) Carl Sciple

Col. (ret.) Carl Sciple, former New England Division Engineer has been selected to receive the prestigious Engineer News Record (ENR) Magazine's Legacy Award. ENR made the announcement Oct. 4. Recipients are chosen by ENR's editors.

"The award is given annually to an individual in the region who has established a solid 'legacy' of lifetime service to the construction industry, their colleagues and to their community," said Justin Rice, Editor for ENR New England.

Sciple received the award for his work as the northeast director at MOCA Systems, as an engineer officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for 24 years, and as an employee at

the Massachusetts Port Authority for 23 years. ENR also cited his commitment to academics. Sciple served as an associate professor of construction management at Wentworth Institute of Technology.

Over the years he also has been involved with various mentoring programs for young professionals in the construction industry. According to ENR, he is a board member and past president of the Construction Management Association of America, New England Chapter and has been the recipient of its Distinguished Award. In addition, he is the current board member and past president of the Society of American Military Engineers.

The former New England Division Commander, who served at the Corps in New England from Aug. 20, 1982 until Aug. 28, 1985, is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and received a master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley. He is also a graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College and the Army War College. His military awards include the Bronze Star Medal (three awards), Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Air Medal and the Army Commendation medal.





Scott Acone conducts briefing at the AUSA Annual Meeting on Oct. 3.



Scott Acone answers questions after his Urban Search and Rescue presentation.

## Scott Acone speaks at AUSA Conference

Scott Acone, New England District's Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management, joined Col. Eric McFadden, Deputy Commander, South Pacific Division, in speaking at the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) annual meeting, Oct. 3 in Washington, D.C. The pair gave a presentation titled, "Enhancing Readiness: Urban Search and Rescue."

Acone is a member of the Corps of Engineers Urban Search and Rescue Team. The briefing was one of many during the three day conference. According to Acone, team members who are involved in Urban Search and Rescue are structures specialists who are specifically trained professional engineers with a structural engineering background. "These engineers understand structural collapse and search and rescue principles and are trained to minimize risk during response to structural collapse," he said.

In the briefing, Acone and Col. McFadden explained that Urban Search and Rescue is needed to support civil authorities. "Our national preparedness is the shared responsibility of all levels of government, the private and nonprofit sectors and individual citizens," said Acone. "Everyone can contribute to safeguarding the nation from harm."

Acone and Col. McFadden discussed the training available for structures specialist. They also discussed the duties of a structures specialist and past instances when they were used for disasters such as the Oklahoma City Bombing, the World Trade Center on 9/11 and the Haiti Earthquake. They concluded the presentation by discussing how Urban Search and Rescue is deployed.

According to Corps of Engineers Headquarters, Urban Search and Rescue is a dangerous undertaking conducted in

buildings that are fully or partially collapsed. Typically, these structures are multi-storied and contain heavy debris with a high potential for additional collapse. Engineers trained as Structures Specialists evaluate damaged buildings or hazards in order to reduce the risks to rescue personnel and victims.

The Structures Specialists are trained in rescue techniques. They also receive instruction in structural collapse patterns, hazard identification and building monitoring, rapid assessment of buildings, building triage and marking systems, advance shoring and shoring calculations.

The Corps Structures Specialist Cadre is an essential component of the FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Task Force and the first with the ability for fast deployment in a lifesaving mission. The Structures Specialist brings engineering expertise to the US&R Task Force.

Responsible for evaluating the immediate structural conditions at the incident and recommending the appropriate hazard mitigation, the Structures Specialist serves a vital function to the Task Force or the Rescue/Recovery Team. The cadre maintains three prepositioned equipment caches in the eastern, central and western regions of the country to enable rapid deployment to support lifesaving operations.

According to their website, AUSA, was founded in 1950, and has worked to support all aspects of national security while advancing the interests of America's Army and the men and women who serve.

AUSA is a private, non-profit educational organization that supports America's Army - Regular Army, National Guard, Reserve, Retired Soldiers, Government Civilians, Wounded Warriors, Veterans, concerned citizens and family members. AUSA provides numerous Professional Development Opportunities at a variety of events both local and national.



Members of the New England District team pose in their costumes during the annual Halloween potluck lunch, Oct. 31.

## District team shows Halloween spirit during annual potluck lunch

About 25 costumed team members attended the annual Halloween Potluck Lunch on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> in the Concord Park cafeteria.

Dishes ranged from hot (Goulash, meatballs) to cold salads. Desserts were plentiful as well. Special guest, the Cat in the Hat, made the rounds to the tables to wish team

members a Happy Halloween. This year's costumes ran the imagination spectrum from a surgeon to a goldfish.

All New England District team members were invited to participate in the lunch. Guests were asked to bring a dish to share with others and to dress up in costumes for fun. Peter Hugh organized the event.



Team members show off their creative costumes during the lunch.

Photos by Brian Murphy



Participating team members brought hot and cold dishes as well as desserts for the lunch.

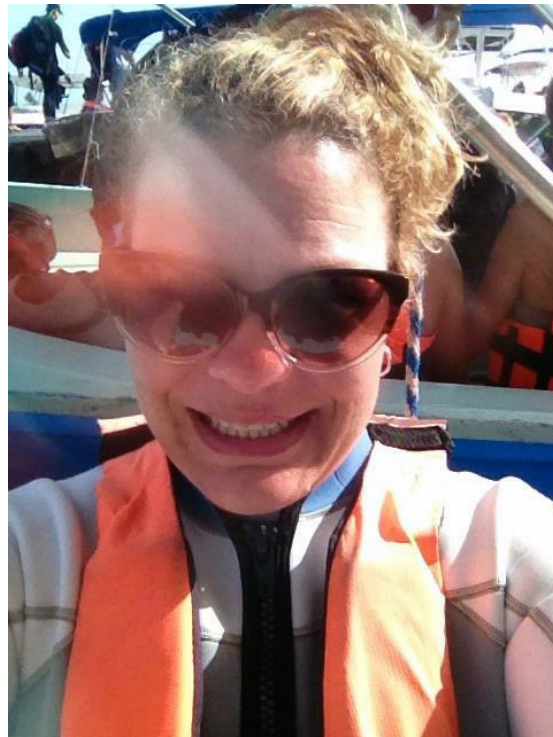
## Employee Spotlight: Mary Mason, Engineering

Mary Mason is an Engineering Technical Lead in Engineering. She's brand new to the Corps, only having arrived two months ago.

"My duties include providing guidance on technical approach and methodologies to accomplish our task, assist in the procurement of qualified contractors, establish and support project delivery teams, review project deliverables, and provide support to project management," she said.

Prior to coming to New England District, she worked at a small business in Las Cruces, New Mexico for two years.

Before that she spent almost 12 years working for Tetra Tech NUS and before that Fugro Consultants. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Sciences from



Mary Mason, Engineering

Texas A&M University.

Although she hasn't been at the District very long, Mason says she's enjoying the opportunity to work with a team that crosses multiple disciplinary fields. "I believe science is a consortium and having the opportunity to work with a team of motivated and multi-talented individuals is truly exciting," she said.

Mason loves the ocean. Last year she had the opportunity to dive with whale sharks in an area between the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea where they spawn and raise their young.

"As you could guess by my chosen degree, I have a passion for the ocean," she said. "I am currently looking for volunteer opportunities at an ocean or coastal conservation group. So if anyone knows of a great organization, please let me know!"

## New Keegan Memorial Golf Trophy unveiled during ceremony

The NED Golf League has retired its legendary Gunnar Berglund trophy and unveiled the new Michael F. Keegan Memorial Cup. A small ceremony marking the event took place in the Concord Park cafeteria, Nov. 7.

The new cup is named after Michael Keegan, Project Management, who passed away suddenly earlier this year. Keegan was an avid golfer and a long-time member of the league.

"The Gunnar Berglund Trophy was full, so we decided to retire it," said Michael Tuttle, co-chair of the NED Golf League. "It's only fitting the new trophy be named after Mike."

Tuttle and his co-chair Mike Riccio were on hand to retire the old trophy and unveil the new one. The first names placed on the new trophy were this year's winners -- Steve Simmer and Brian Waz. As is tradition, the new trophy will reside in the cubicles of the winners for the year. The decades old NED Golf League has been a sports staple of the New England District team since the 1950's.



Photos by Brian Murphy

Mike Tuttle presents Steve Simmer with the new Mike Keegan Memorial Trophy during a small ceremony. Mike Riccio, co-chair, was also present to participate in the event.

# Boston Military Entrance Point Processing Station Renovation at the Barnes Building scheduled for December completion

by Robert Leitch

## Project Management

Members of the New England District team are nearing completion on the Boston Military Entrance Point Process Station at the Barnes Building in Boston, Mass. All the remaining renovations are scheduled to be completed in December. A Military Entrance Processing Station is where applicants for military service go to complete the enlistment process. There are 65 MEPS in the United States and Puerto Rico.

The Boston Military Entrance Processing Station renovation project included the repair and partial modernization of the fifth and first floors of the nine-story Barnes Building located at 495 Summer Street. The 34,410 square-foot fifth floor area was repaired and modernized. The first floor entrance area also was updated.

The renovation effort included replacing the existing 1970s era office space with modern offices and upgrades to accommodate the deployment and re-deployment processing of personnel from all military branches.

Specifically, the work included interior demolition, installation of metal stud/drywall interior partitions, replacement of suspended ceilings, interior doors, interior finishes, casework, interior glazing, signage, lighting, power, communications, alterations of existing HVAC, plumbing, and fire protection systems.

Asbestos materials also were also abated. Types of interior spaces renovated include offices, non-complex medical exam rooms, computer testing rooms, conference and briefing rooms, restrooms and locker rooms.

Kallidus Technologies of Lowell, Massachusetts received



MEPS sign inside of the Barnes Building in Boston, Massachusetts.

Photos by Susanne Grant

the \$5.92 million construction contract on Sept. 30, 2014 and resulted in a Beneficial Occupancy Date of May 20, 2016. Due to unforeseen site conditions and design variations required during the construction project, \$1.1 million in modifications were added to the project to meet the end-user's requirements and associated enhancements.

As with all renovation projects on aging buildings, the project team had to overcome the unforeseen conditions including crumbling, structurally unstable concrete sub-flooring and work around unforeseen structural steel reinforcement.

Complicating the demolition was the inner-city location with an adjacent narrow alley restricting access to cranes, dumpsters and material delivery. Much of this work had to be performed off hours and weekends to avoid disruption to occupied spaces.

The many construction changes were quickly reacted to by the Central Resident Office to avoid construction delays and to keep the project cost below the \$7.5 million upper project threshold. The success of the project was truly a team effort by the Corps team, resulting in a magnificent facility for processing the country's military service men and women.

The Construction team included Cesar Lopez, Resident Engineer, Susanne Grant, Contracting Officer's Representative, and Mark Walsh, QA Representatives.

Kellie Jones, Norfolk District Project Manager, coordinated submittal reviews and design changes.

Robert Leitch, New England District Project Manager, coordinated with MEPCOM to ensure timely availability of project funds.



Newly renovated office space.

## Chilean culture focus of Hispanic Heritage Month event

New England District's Hispanic Heritage Month Committee and the Equal Employment Opportunity Office co-hosted an event Oct. 5 in the Concord Park Theater. In a letter to the North Atlantic Division team, Brig. Gen. William Graham encouraged all NAD team members to recognize and honor the achievements and contributions of Hispanics throughout history. "The North Atlantic Division is blessed with both diversity and excellence in its workforce," he said. "The team includes all genders, nationalities, religions, abilities and preferences. Hispanic Team members are important contributors to mission success. We see those contributions daily as we work together and support the nation, making the world a safer, better place."

The keynote speaker was Ms. Rosa Zullo, a consular agent for culture in the Chilean Consulate of Boston. RuthAnn Brien, Hispanic Heritage Program Manager, welcomed the audience and talked a little about Hispanic Heritage Month and why it falls in the middle of the month as opposed to the other observances. "It has to do with the celebration of Independence Days," she said. "Sept. 15 is a celebration for five different Latin American countries which include El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico's Independence Day is on Sept. 16 and Chile's Independence Day is on Sept. 18. So that's why this observance starts in the middle of the month."

Brien introduced Zullo, who talked about Chilean geography, weather, economy, culture and food while images of Chile played in the background. She said that she began talking about Chile because she would go to Latin cultural fairs and Chile was not represented.

Zullo mentioned that a new mall opened recently in



Scott Acone presents Rosa Zullo of the Chilean Consulate with a Bunker Hill certificate in appreciation for her presentation.

Chili that is considered the largest mall in Latin America. She also said that there is a large telescope in Chile that scientists come from all over to look through because of the country's clear skies.

After her presentation, a Chilean dance troupe performed several numbers for the audience. After a brief question and answer period, Scott Acone, Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management, presented her with a Bunker Hill plaque to thank her for her presentation.

Rosa Zullo came to the United State in 1978. A lack of involvement of Chilean Americans attending Hispanic festivals in her community encouraged her to share information on Chilean history and culture in the United States. In addition to her work with the Chilean Consulate, she has worked as a translator, a notary public, girls soccer coach and owned her own cleaning business.

## District recognizes Disability Awareness Month with performance

The New England District team participated in an event to commemorate Disability Awareness Month on Oct. 18 in the Concord Park theatre. Catherine O'Leary performed, "Dangerously High, Breaking Through the Stigma of Mental Illness." The educational and entertaining show centered around Kitty McKay's own struggle with bipolar disorder. The performance, which O'Leary performed on her own, carried a message of hope for people with mental illness and their friends and families. The show highlighted her personal experience with mania and its repercussions.

"The performance was meant to carry a message to help break the stigma for those people who want further education about mental illness," said O'Leary. "It is also a dramatic presentation for those who simply love theatre."

After the performance, Col. Christopher Barron, District Engineer, presented O'Leary with a Bunker Hill plaque.



Col. Christopher Barron presents Catherine O'Leary with a Bunker Hill plaque. Photos by Brian Murphy

# Dredging up the past



Col. Thomas Koning, New England District Engineer, waits to retire a flag during the Concord Flag Burning ceremony in Sleepy Hollow Cemetery in this Nov. 11, 2003. (Photo by C.J. Allen)

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