

Mark Geib
Retirement
Page 4



Gardner
inducted
into Hall of
Fame
Page 5



Yankee Voices.....	2
Commander's Column.....	3
Tully Lake Triathlon.....	6
EMS Volunteers.....	7
District Honors Veterans.....	8
Dredging Up the Past.....	12



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New England District

Volume 42, No. 2

Yankee Engineer

November 2007

Corps of Engineers awards contract for dredging of Westport Harbor federal project

By Timothy Dugan
Public Affairs Office

The Westport River and Harbor Federal Navigation Project, in Westport, Mass., will be dredged under the terms of a \$767,843 contract issued recently by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District.

The dredging, which will be accomplished by Southwind Construction Corporation, of Evansville, Ind., began on Nov. 1, and will take about two months to complete. The contract was awarded Sept. 29.

The contract calls for maintenance and improvement dredging of approximately 19,500 cubic yards of material from the Federally-authorized navigation channel. The project is sponsored by the Commonwealth's Department of Conservation and Recreation.

"Natural shoaling processes have reduced available depths, making navigation hazardous at lower stages of the tide," said the New England District's Project Manager Michael Tuttle.

The project involves the dredging of a new authorized entrance channel depth of 9-foot Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW). The Corps of Engineers

plans a beneficial use of the dredged material.

"Dredging will be performed by a hydraulic dredge and the dredged material will be pumped with minor re-grading on the town-owned portion of Horseneck Beach," Tuttle said. "It is Corps policy to implement a beneficial use of the dredged material, if practicable."

The federal project serves the commercial navigation industry and recreational boaters in the vicinity of Westport. The dredging window is Oct. 1 to Jan. 31.

All work will be accomplished under the supervision of a Corps of Engineers Quality Management Engineer/ Representative to assure compliance with contract requirements.



Photo provided by Project Management

Aerial view of Westport Harbor in Westport, Mass.

Yankee Voices

Mary Christopher, winner of the Halloween Cube Contest and Raimo Liias



Congratulations

... to **Laura Fraser** and her husband, **Rich**, on the birth of their daughter, **Lacey Ann Fraser**, on Oct. 23.

...to **Leslie Lovick** who was selected as the November 2007 Employee Of The Month. Lovick was recognized for her exceptional guidance and assistance during the first round of NSPS implementation for the New England District. Her genuine willingness to help and extensive knowledge of NSPS went a long way in assisting the entire New England District NSPS staff in completing and submitting annual self-assessments and appraisals.

Sympathy

...to the family of Construction/Operations retiree **Daniel W. Clark, Sr.**, who passed away on Oct. 29. During his career, Clark worked at Franklin Falls Dam, Barre Falls Dam, and Hodges Village Dam.

...to **Dave Larsen**, Engineering/Planning, on the passing of his wife, **Pam**, Nov. 1.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial 25th Anniversary

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial celebrates its 25th anniversary this year. This world-famous monument owes its existence to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, a nonprofit group founded in 1979 by veteran Jan Scruggs, who was dedicated to seeking recognition for those who served in the war. After a national competition, the winning design for the memorial was a stark, V-shaped black granite wall inscribed with the names of those killed or missing in the war, designed by Maya Lin, a 21-year-old architecture major at Yale University.

Her concept, although unanimously lauded by the design commission, was quite controversial. Detractors, including Ross Perot and 27 Republican congressmen, felt the minimalist design demeaned the memory of those who died. To appease opponents, the decision was made to add a flagstaff and a realistic bronze statue of three Vietnam soldiers by sculptor Frederick Hart. Later, in 1993, a statute designed by sculptor Glenna Goodacre was added to the site to honor women who served in the war. The memorial was officially dedicated on Nov. 13, 1982, and today is one of the most visited monuments in Washington, D.C., receiving more than four million visitors a year.

Anniversary events throughout 2007 culminate in November, which included a music and poetry tribute on Nov. 6. The Reading of the Names began on Nov. 7, and featured approximately 2,000 volunteers reading the more than 58,000 names inscribed on The Wall over a period of four days. On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, a special observance featured a keynote address by retired General Colin Powell. An "In Memory" plaque was dedicated in November 2004, honoring men and women who died prematurely as a result of their service in Vietnam. (Ideas Unlimited.)

The Corps' First Team -- Vision Challenges

- Validate the existing goals and objectives
- Provide feedback on new or emerging goals and priorities
- Describe how we can collectively meet the next year's challenges and events as briefed
- Most importantly – how we can collectively accomplish the vision!!

YANKEE ENGINEER is an authorized unofficial Army newspaper under provisions of AR 360-1 published monthly. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Contributions from readers are solicited, but publication depends on judgment of the editor. No payment will be made for contributions. Published by the Public Affairs Office, New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord MA 01742-2751, 978-318-8777. Printed by the offset method on recyclable paper by the Defense Printing Office in Boston, Mass. Circulation 1600. The YANKEE ENGINEER can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/news/yankee.htm>

District CommanderCol. Curtis L. Thalken
Chief, Public AffairsLarry B. Rosenberg



EditorAnn Marie R. Harvie
Media Relations Officer.....Timothy J. Dugan
Public Affairs Specialist.....Sally M. Rigione

Commander's Corner:

How disciplined thought leads to disciplined action

by Col. Curtis L. Thalken
District Commander



This month I'd like to revisit the "Good to Great" topic I introduced a couple of months ago. In particular, I'd like to expand on the topic of Disciplined Thought and how it leads to Disciplined Action.

To begin, let's return to the Hedgehog and his sole minded focus on mission accomplishment. In an addendum to his original book entitled Good to Great and the

Social Sectors, Jim Collins identifies three questions public activities must answer to achieve the required single minded focus.

First he asks, "what are you passionate about?" The USACE mission (The United States Army Corps of Engineers serves the Armed Forces and the nation by providing vital engineering services and capabilities, as a public service, across the full spectrum of operations--from peace to war--in support of national interests.) and Army Values (Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Service). Since my assignment to the district, I've wrestled with trying to find a more compact way to say all of this that I can use to steer my own actions.

I've reached the conclusion that USACE protects the American public, its property and its natural resources. The idea of protecting is something I personally feel passionate about and it nests well within the overall Army mission. While we do some things that cannot be directly traced back to this thought, most of our core capabilities directly support this idea.

Second, Collins asks, what can we be the best at? The Corps of Engineers origins began when the Army was the only source of trained Engineers for the nation. This is no longer the case, so what makes us relevant today? I believe USACE's stated focus on watershed wide systemic solutions provides the answer.

As representatives of the federal government, we must look beyond the immediate first order effects of an engineering solution. We must look beyond the simple question does the recommended solution solve the immediate problem?

We must look at additional topics like upstream and downstream impacts, impacts to the environment and ability of local sponsors to maintain the project. We must be the "honest broker" looking out for the interests of all, not just those seeking a local solution to a local problem.

Third, Collins asks, "what drives your resource engine?" This is where his addendum differs from the original book, which focused on an economic engine. Since USACE is project funded, unlike most other federal agencies, economics are still a significant consideration for us. Collins' opinions that widespread brand recognition is what helps to differentiate great from good social sector organizations and provides the organization with the resources they need to succeed. This is an area where we suffer.

The concept that USACE is "too slow and costs too much" is still prevalent. Many local sponsors only tolerate us because we bring federal funds that reduce their costs. We

'The idea of protecting [the American Public and its natural resources] is something I personally feel passionate about and it nests well within the overall Army mission.'

- Col. Curtis L. Thalken, District Commander

must change this perception. I would be much prouder if we were recognized for delivering fast innovative solutions at a lower cost.

Now if these three questions are condensed to one focused thought, we should strive to provide the American public with innovative systemic solutions to watershed wide problems that increase public safety and enhance the environment. This provides a focus I am excited about and would be proud to find reflected in the nation's perception of us. I leave you all with the question how can my actions contribute to forwarding this agenda? This is the crux of Collins' Disciplined Action.

Collins likens individual actions to individual forces applied to a flywheel. Individual actions begin to turn the flywheel and as more action occurs the flywheel begins to spin faster. The wheel starts slowly, but the wheel spins faster with every action applied. So every individual action matters.

As always, thanks for everything you do. It is your actions that keep our flywheel moving.

Essayons!

Mark Geib retires after 32 years of federal service

Story and photo by Farrell McMillan
Chief, Engineering/Planning

At a small, official ceremony in the Chief of Engineering/Planning's Office, Col. Curtis Thalken, New England District Commander, presented Mark Geib, Chief, Water Management Section with his retirement certificate and the Commanders Award for Civilian Service on Oct. 12. Geib retired from the New England District after 32 years of federal service.

Geib has had an outstanding career with the Corps of Engineers, starting with the Jacksonville District in 1975. He came to the New England Division in 1978, progressing to Chief of the Hydrologic Engineering Branch in 1988, where he has been in a leadership capacity ever since.

Geib has had a long career in hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) engineering. He has been a technical expert and advisor to the District on H&H matters for many years. He has instructed and mentored an entire gen-

eration of New England District H&H engineers.

During his tenure as Chief, Water Management Section, Geib's experience and personal commitment were critical to the successful completion of many important New England District projects. The benefits of his contributions to the New England District will continue to be realized for many years to come, both in his contribution to individual projects and the technical expertise extended those personnel who had the good fortune to work with him.



Mark Geib (right) receives a Commander's Award for Civilian Service from Col. Curtis Thalken during his retirement ceremony.

Female engineer honored as role model to high school students

Matignon High School recently bestowed its highest honor on one of New England District's top female engineers for her hard work in giving back to the community and serving as a positive role model for young people.

Joan Gardner, Chief of Technical Services in Construction/Operations and a Matignon graduate, was inducted in the school's Achievement Hall of Fame during a ceremony held Sept. 30 at the Catholic High School's Cambridge, Mass., campus.

"A member of the Achievement Hall of Fame at Matignon is an individual who has demonstrated significant accomplishments in his/her chosen profession or unique contributions to the community," said Board of Trustees Chairman Paul G. Coakley. "They serve as role models and an inspiration to today's students."

Gardner was singled out for the honor for her impressive career achievements with the Corps of Engineers as well as sharing her expertise as a volunteer engineering mentor at Matignon and North Cambridge Catholic High Schools.

Gardner has broken through many barriers as a woman, to include becoming the first Civil Engineering Supervisor, first female Civil Engineer Division Chief and first female Deputy Director at the New England District. She is also the past Treasurer and first female officer of the Society of American Military Engineers (Boston Post).

The latest Matignon Hall of Famer became involved in mentoring years ago when she contacted her friend and nominator Elaine Miceli, who taught at the high school at the time. "She gave my name to the Alumni Office," Gardner explained. "They were very interested in having someone speak about Engineering at their Career Day,

since students were asking more and more about the profession."

The Alumni Office was so impressed with Gardner's presentation, she has been asked back every year to speak.

Gardner was also instrumental in bringing Senior Students from North Cambridge Catholic into New England District's former "Adopt a School" program. Students would have a one year "Internship" with the District, where they would gain valuable work experience.

Gardner comes from an impressive lineage of engineers. Her father, the late Paul Di Pietro, was an esteemed engineer in Planning Division. Her older brother, Paul Di Pietro, is a well known engineer at the Department of Recreation and Conservation (formerly the MDC) and her younger brother, Robert Di Pietro is a respected engineer for the Massachu-

setts Highway Department.

Although she has many proud moments advising students, no moment could be more close to her heart than the day when her son, Christopher, approached his mother as a mentor and talked of his interest in entering the "family profession."

"My son is a senior in high school and he is very interested in Engineering," she said. "When he told me, I was happy, because I wanted him to make that decision on his own. I basically told him what would be expected in college. I also said that he may end up changing careers when he starts college. If he does that is fine too, but for now, he says he wants Mechanical Engineering."

Although honored with the induction, Gardner confessed to feeling embarrassed with all the attention. "I like guiding and helping students, but like to keep it low key," she said.



Photo provided by Joan Gardner

Joan Gardner (center) with her son, Christopher, and husband, David, at the Matignon High School Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

District's Tully Lake holds first Triathlon

by James West
Park Ranger, Tully Lake

An air of uncertainty was present in the morning mist. The partly cloudy October weather could not have been better with an expected high around 60 degrees. Trail conditions were ideal. How would an event such as a first time triathlon be received? Anticipating the answer, the Trustees of the Reservations (TTOR), New England District's Tully Lake, Fire/EMS, Police, and Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), used the event as an Incident Command exercise, and readied for whatever was in store.

The TTOR hosted the 1st annual Tully Lake Triathlon based out of the Tully Lake Campground, Oct. 14. The event, which had 67 athletes participate, highlighted the recreational activities and local trails open on TTOR and New England District property. The custom triathlon was comprised of a 5-mile canoe/kayak paddle, a 4.5-mile cross-country run and a 7.5-mile mountain bike ride.

After a brief morning safety meeting with TTOR, paddlers made their way to the shore and lined up between the buoys. The wind was in their faces as the single and multiple paddlers readied themselves. Would the course be too strenuous? Would the lower than normal water levels lead to participants bottle necking in the shallow river? The answers would soon be apparent as the Corps siren started the race.

Fire rescue boats were in the river and Long Pond while the paddlers made their way north. The competition spread out on the first leg. Around the midway buoy at the top of Long Pond and back to the campground they navigated. The course seemed to flow as the athletes completed the paddling portion of the event and proceeded to the run. A grueling paved hill started off the trail run around Tully Lake. Police maintained traffic details as runners entered the woods. Roots, rocks, and periodic slope changes challenged runners over much of this leg of the triathlon.

Contestants slowly started moving to the bike staging area. Foot-patrolling Corps Rangers Stephen Decker,

Jason Robinson, and Rick Kristoff started to clear the running course. Local EMS and fire personnel were strategically placed on the mountain bike course while Jeffrey Phillips, Project Manager at Birch Hill Dam, and Park Ranger Zachary Koziol patrolled the east and west sides.

The men's winner completed the course in two hours 12 minutes 19 seconds. The women's winner completed the course in two hours 55 minutes 47 seconds. The winning two-person team completed in two hours 22 minutes 47 seconds, and the winning three-person team completed the course in two hours 27 minutes 12 seconds.

The USACE Wachusett radio network operated wonderfully throughout the project boundaries. Rangers were able to communicate status reports to the Incident Command Center located at the Park Office. When the MEMA's Mobile Command unit was sidelined, the Corps network used its capabilities to communicate the fire/EMS transmission through the Royalston Highway programmed frequency.

Once the Corps Rangers cleared the mountain bike course it was apparent that the event was a success as participants commented that the layout was enjoyable and challenging while the event overall was well run. The Incident Command Operations were also completed successfully.

At the conclusion of the triathlon, Lt. Col. Andrew Nelson, New England District's Deputy Commander, was on hand to help with the awards ceremony. During the ceremony, Walker Korby of TTOR commented on how the organization couldn't have been happier with the turnout for this first time event. The TTOR was energized to continue in making this triathlon a signature event at the Tully Lake Campground and to draw the public to the Tully River Valley.



Triathlon participants take to the water during the competition.

Photo provided by Tully Lake.

Monadnock region volunteers make improvements to Edward MacDowell Lake

by Joshua Levesque, Edward MacDowell Lake

On a very crisp September early morning, volunteers from various organizations to include Eastern Mountain Sports began to arrive at Edward MacDowell Lake to reach out to local organizations and communities and contribute towards projects that benefit the public.

Edward MacDowell Lake's community partnership began as a mutual interest in offering water safety courses to our public, tapping into their instruction courses and our own park's highest water use—kayaking. Edward MacDowell Lake has been offering free Kayak instructions and guided boat tours for over five years.

It was through this working relationship that Park Ranger Joshua Levesque, working closely with volunteers Shawn Lupa and Rebecca Shannon, helped to bring together the people and coordinate the efforts and events for the day. Projects included extensive trail maintenance, bridge construction, picnic tables, bird boxes and various park painting projects.

"I think we all worked together to achieve our main recreational mission which is to continuously provide a safe and enjoyable experience for every Corps visitor," said Levesque.

The majority of volunteers focused on rehabilitating nearly two miles of our trail network, focusing on the more remote and flood impacted ranges. Staff and volunteers worked together, removing flood debris and constructing a series of bridges designed to mitigate the impact to the trails due to flooding and enabling these areas to be utilized and enjoyed for future seasons. The efforts of all the volunteers resulted in a savings of \$4,317 for the government.

Many of the Edward MacDowell Lake's trails are directly impacted by debris and tree kill-off from flooding events. The project has seen three record events within the

past two years, and the remote recreation had suffered as a result. Without the help of local volunteers and dedicated workers many of these trail systems would still require some maintenance. "In part, through efforts of volunteers and other organizations, our parks and recreational opportunities continue to thrive and grow," said Levesque.



Volunteers' donated labor to improve Edward MacDowell Lake totaled in the thousands.



A volunteer performs trail maintenance work.

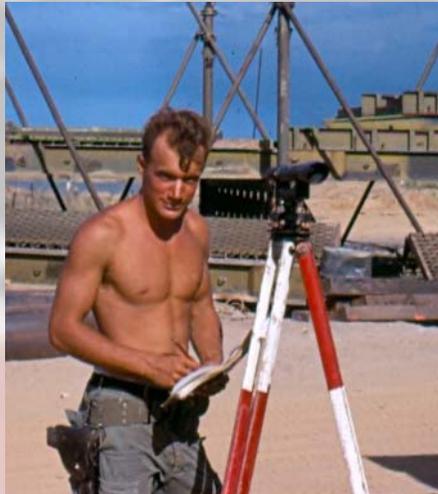


Park Rangers worked together with volunteers to perform improvements at Edward MacDowell Lake.

New England District honors its employee veterans



*Gunny (E-7) Dennis Arsenault
U.S. Marine Corps*



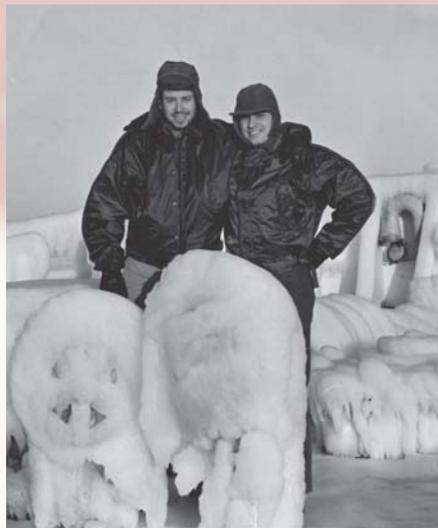
*Townsend Barker
577th Engineers
U.S. Army*



*Sgt. (E-5) Robert Bright
5th Special Forces Group
U.S. Army*



*Capt. Carol Charette
U.S. Army*



*Hospital Corpsman Second Class Frank
Delgiudice (right)
Coast Guard Cutter STATEN ISLAND
U.S. Coast Guard*



*Spec. 5 Timothy J. Dugan
U.S. Army*



*SSgt Joseph Faloretti
U.S. Air Force*



*Master Sergeant Varoujan "John"
Garabedian
102nd Civil Engineering Squadron
U.S. Air Force
Air National Guard*



*SSgt. Crystal I. Gardner
373 General Hospital and 309th Field
Hospital
U.S. Army*



*2 Lt. Janet Hall
46th Engineering Battalion
(Combat) (Heavy)
U.S. Army*



*Sgt. Timothy Hays
HQ MACV
Advisory Team 62 Vietnam
U.S. Air Force*



*Petty Officer 2nd Class Claudia Hixson
VF-101
U.S. Navy*



*Spec. 5 Jack Karalius (left)
Army Engineers
U.S. Army*



*Sgt. Cheryl A. (Shindler) Kassoy
5th Signal Corps
U.S. Army*



*Master Sergeant Santos Lara, Sr.,
U.S. Air Force*



*Scott Leonard
509th Bomb Wing,
SAC, Civil Engineering Squadron
U.S. Air Force*



*Spec. 4 Medic Jim Lewis
C Company, 9th Medical Bn
9th Infantry Div. Mekong Delta-Vietnam
U.S. Army*



*Petty Officer 2nd Class Farrell McMillan
Mobile Construction Battalion 71
U.S. Navy Seabees*



*1st Lt. Robert Meader
Company B, 69th Engineer Battalion
39th Engineer Group
U.S. Army*



*Cpl. K.C. Mitkevicius
3rd Marine Division, Chu Lai Vietnam
U.S. Marine Corps*



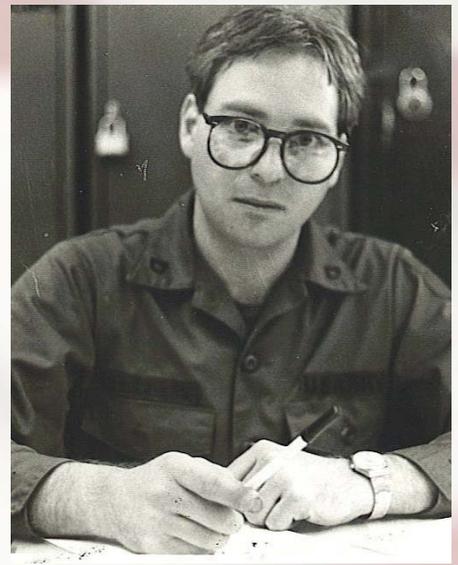
*Spec. 4 Philip Morrison
173rd Airborne Brigade
U.S. Army*



*Sgt. Patricia Price
U.S. Air Force*



*Spec. 4 William Pumyea
211th MP BN, HHD
MA Army National Guard*



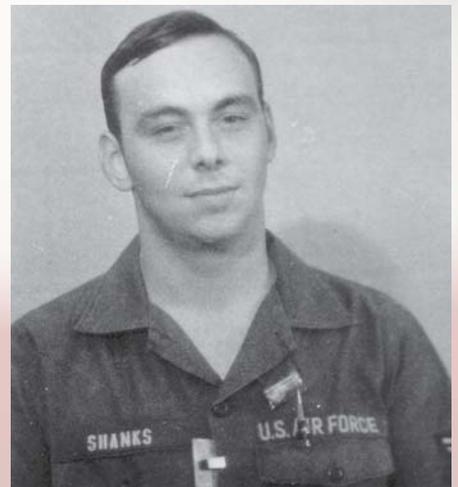
*Sgt. Larry Rosenberg
1st Infantry Division
U.S. Army*



*Capt. William C. Scully (left)
6175th Civil Engineering Squadron
Kunsan Air Base, Korea
U.S. Air Force*



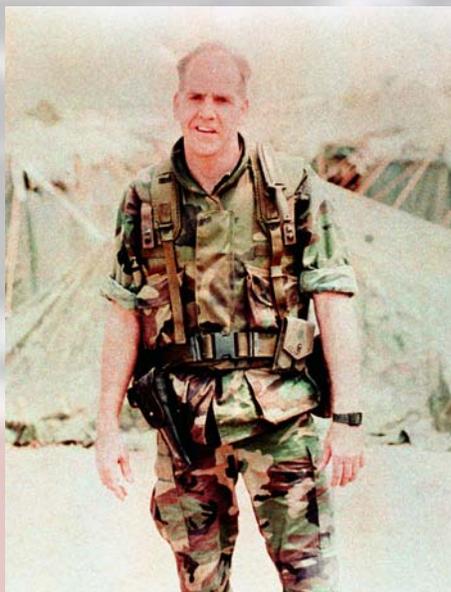
*Petty Officer First Class Richard Spagnuolo
Assault Craft Unit 5
U.S. Navy*



*SSgt. Alister Shanks
Avionics Maintenance Squadron
U.S. Air Force*



*Cpl. Randall Sujat
U.S. Marine Corps*



*Cmdr. William "Bud" Taylor, II
Civil Engineer Corps
United States Naval Reserve Seabees*



*Capt. Brian Valiton
Military Assistance Command Vietnam
Advisory Team 88, Mekong Delta
U.S. Army*



*Capt. John Winmill (right)
73rd Engineer Company (CS) Construction
Support
U.S. Army*



*Spec. 4 Timothy Winter
Company D, 69th Engineer Bn, 34th Group,
20th Brigade, Binh Thuy, Vietnam
U.S. Army*



*First Sergeant Norbert "Z" Zimmerman
U.S. Army*

New England District Veterans whose photos were not available

Capt. John Astley, Counsel, First Coast Guard District, U.S. Coast Guard

Spec. 5 Richard C. Carlson, Corps of Engineers, Far East District, Seoul, South Korea, U.S. Army

Thomas A. Chamberland, U.S. Air Force

Lt. j.g. George Claflin, USS SOUTHERLAND, DD-743, U.S. Navy

Lt. James Conway, 42nd Civil Engineering Squadron, U.S. Air Force

Martin J. Curran, USS SATYR (ARL), U.S. Navy

Stephen D. DiLorenzo, 128th Assault Helicopter Company, U.S. Army

Sgt. Edward Donnelly, A Trp 2/4 Cavalry Squadron, 24th Infantry Division, U.S. Army

Operations Specialist 2nd Class (E-5), Shellagh Kathryn Gooley Korowski, Fleet Combat Directions Systems Training Center (Pacific), U.S. Navy

E-5 Luke Lomeland, Race Point Station, U.S. Coast Guard

Anthony T. Mackos, U.S. Air Force

Sgt. Andrew McAvoy, Marine Attack Squadron VMA(AW)224, U.S. Marine Corps

Spec. 5 Kevin B. McKelvey, MOS Infantry, U.S. Army

Capt. Theresa A. Negron, HQ HSD/JA, U.S. Air Force

Pfc. Jerome Nunziato, CO A, 308th Quartermaster Battalion, U.S. Army

Edmund O'Leary, USA Data Support Command, U.S. Army

Dredging up the past . . .



Col. Carl Sciple, New England Division Engineer, signs a labor agreement in the presence of New England Division union representatives in this circa 1983 picture.

Public Affairs Office
New England District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751
Meter Code 40

First Class
U.S. Postage
Paid
Concord, MA
Permit No. 494