

Hispanic  
Heritage  
Month  
Page 6



Eastern States  
Exhibition  
Page 12



Command Corner.....	3
Mark Rosenthal.....	4
Town Meeting.....	7
Cape Cod Open House.....	8
Cell Phone Safety.....	9
Golf League.....	10
CP-18 Program.....	16
Contractor Award.....	17
WE Bus Tour.....	18



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New England District

# Yankee Engineer

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Photo by C.J. Allen.

## Volunteers key to success of National Public Lands Day at District project

*Fall in New England brings people out for all kinds of events, such as the changing leaves, county fairs, and National Public Lands Day (NPLD).*

*Buffumville Lake and Hodges Village Dam in Charlton and Oxford, Massachusetts, and a crowd of volunteers celebrated NPLD Saturday, September 23, by rolling up their sleeves and getting dirty while sprucing up the site with various projects and improvements.*

*It's a dirty job, but someone has to do it -- volunteers at National Public Lands Day get their hands dirty while completing one of the 21 projects assigned that day.*

*Continued on page 14*

# Yankee Voices



Miguel Rosa  
Mailroom

## Sympathy

...to wife **Edna**, family and friends of **Paul R. Lewis**, former project manager at Colebrook River Lake, Conn., who passed away September 24 at his home in Riverton, Conn.

Mr. Lewis was a WWII veteran, had a 28-year career with the Corps, and retired in December 1985.

Early in his career he was a manager at both Townsend and Ball Mountain Lakes in Vermont and then in 1969 transferred to the new Colebrook River Lake as its first project manager.

Mr. Lewis was returned home to Poultney, Vermont for a memorial service and military honors on October 1 and for burial at Wells Cemetery.

...to the family of Contracting retiree **John Murphy** who passed away October 1.

Mr. Murphy retired in 1965 and had recently celebrated his 95th birthday.

Mr. Murphy also helped establish the District Golf League and was an original member.

## Con/Ops retiree Bob Heald checks in

Hi Folks,

Just wanted to thank you for the copies of the Yankee Engineer and the Engineer Update that you send out each month. I was in your office a few years ago and saw Ann Marie stuffing envelopes. I asked her what they were for and she said "to send to the retirees." (There were over a 100!) Now, years later and on the receiving end of those envelopes, I appreciate your efforts to keep the retirees informed.

Please keep it up - it ends up being the only link we have with the Corps. Friendships with Corps folk fade away to receiving and sending Christmas greetings which is only natural, I guess. And the Corps' Homepage is there, but getting something from the Corps each month means a great deal. I expect that many of the retired set don't have computers, and don't have the option of that source of news.

Congratulations on the Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Projects receiving the "Project of the Year" award. Dave has been trying for years to be recognized and he finally did it! He won't take the credit that he is due, but no one else (myself included) would have kept after that award. Thank goodness for his tenacity!

And I see that the Honor Guard made the September issue of the Engineer Update! That is still rare for districts to have a Corps Honor Guard and somewhat controversial. I was an army officer first before coming to the Corps, and was initially against the idea of Park Rangers doing the duties, but I have changed my thinking. I now think that it is entirely proper for Corps Rangers to do this duty, and actually think that it improves the Corps morale. Ah, I get carried away...

Keep those Yankee Engineers coming!

**Bob Heald**

## Words worth repeating

**Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.**

- Mark Twain (1835-1910) Humorist and writer

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# The envy of all we survey

by Lt. Col. John Rovero  
Deputy District Engineer



Did you ever wonder if you have it as good as you are told you do?

Do you know that we come to work daily in facilities that are the envy of other Districts?

Visitors from inside and outside the Corps regularly comment on the quality of our work environment.

But how did we get here? Through lots of planning, hard work and taking on the suggestions of many interested District members. Significant thought went into the layout of our facilities long before we ever moved in. And that effort continues. Every change we make considers the impact on our work environment and the people in it.

Let's talk about why we are so fortunate.

## Facilities

It would be difficult to deny that our District Headquarters is a high quality, state-of-the-art facility that few Districts or even few government agencies can match. Modern furnishings enhance the environment and demonstrate a sense of pride and professionalism to our many visitors. Can you imagine commuting into the center of a large city, taking an elevator to the eighth floor of a high rise building often shared with many other companies or government agencies, only to arrive at a workspace much smaller and less appealing than your current one? No more mid-morning, noon, or mid-afternoon strolls in the fresh air. No chance to glance out a window to look at the weather or admire the changing foliage. No, we don't have public transportation, but we do have free, close-in parking and, except in rare instances, no two-hour bumper-to-bumper commutes to the office. Many District offices are located in the downtown section of major Metropolitan areas.

While our field locations do not have new facilities, the staff at every project site takes great pride in their workspace and continually strives to enhance it. You would be hard pressed to find a Park Ranger or Basin Manager who would prefer to work at Concord over one of the many beautiful project sites that they have. At Concord, we don't have the opportunity to polish up on our Disc Golf skills over lunch or to drop a lure in the water for an hour right after work.

Some of our facility features are often taken for granted. We have a library. Many Districts do not. And we are looking to further enhance its capabilities through digitization. Our theater is well suited to professional development seminars and meetings, not to mention "Who wants to be a Millionaire." Dave's Café provides quality food and excellent service on the premises.

When opportunities present themselves, we continue to enhance the facility. The addition of the New England Conference Room as a quality Video Teleconferencing area, more new furniture for various organizations, and a display of District history and memorabilia are just a few new items.

Our on-site fitness center catering to both aerobic exercise and weight training is rare in the Corps. We are surrounded by walking and running trails, and have our own volleyball and basketball court. To supplement that, only a mile and a half away at Hanscom are pool and racquetball facilities available for all to use.

Few Corps Districts can boast of having their own on-site health professional. Working quietly behind the scenes, our nurse provides a significant service to our District family.

We should all take pride in the appearance and quality of our facilities. We should strive to never be embarrassed to bring visitors to our offices. Every District member contributes in some way to the work environment.

## Automation

When we moved from the decaying facilities at Waltham to our new environs here in Concord, the District made a significant investment in the future with modern information technology. New computers, tied into a state-of-the-art network, and phone systems have kept us on the road to success. We continue to leverage technology and upgrade continuously. Just think how fast CEFMS would work, if at all, if you still had that old 286. Believe it or not, some government agencies are still relying heavily on the typewriter to accomplish simple, repetitious tasks like filling out forms. Additionally, our VTC capability is of much better quality and lower cost than when we first moved here.

## Safety

At our old facility, each year one or more of our employees were injured from exposure to hazards directly related to the facility. With solid, level floors and doors that do not stick, these injuries have been eliminated.

## Work Environment Committee

In an effort to never stop improving, the District created the WE committee, a group of dedicated employees whose sole purpose is to take a great place to work and make it even better.

Beginning small, with some simple after-work get-togethers, the ideas have flourished. From competitive games in the theater to sporting opportunities; from bus tours to field locations to Concord/field office personnel exchange programs; from improved walking paths to crafts groups, the WE committee has striven to make work fun. As the Employee and Team of the Month programs begin to highlight the accomplishments of our District's members and Dave's Coffee Cart begins to roam the halls of Concord, we see that people's ideas can make a difference.

## District Project Manager doubles as volunteer fire fighter

*National Fire Prevention is held for one week every October. During this time, tips are usually given to people on how to prevent fires. Mark Rosenthal, Project Manager at North Hartland Lake/Union Village Dam for ten years, knows all about fires. He has seen flames 100 feet high, covering hundreds of acres, and he was not watching them on television. More likely, his co-workers at the New England District were watching him on the national news not as a Park Ranger dressed in his usual uniform, but as a volunteer wildland fire fighter dressed in flame-retardant clothes.*

Mark has been involved with wildland fire suppression for about 11 years. He has also been involved in prescribed burns -- fires purposely set on the ground to achieve a natural resource management goal - for about 20 years. He is certified as a Burn Boss by the U.S. Forest Service.

Mark's first fire was in 1989 at the Roosevelt National Forest in Arizona. He began as a fire fighter, digging fire lines and operating the hoses. After a couple of seasons, he became a sawyer-- a fire fighter who cuts trees-- for the ground crew. From there, he became a squad boss, responsible for a small team of six to eight fire fighters, and soon after he became a crew leader, responsible for 18 to 20 fire fighters.

According to Mark, a crew leader's job is extremely detailed. "Your job starts from the minute you get the call, which is more often than not in the middle of the night," explained Mark. "You are responsible for picking up the crew, their transportation to the incident, food, and lodging if needed on the way to the site."

When the crew arrives at the site, the crew leader must inform the incident commanders of the operation that the crew has arrived and is ready for deployment. The incident commanders provide his crew with camp layouts, maps, food, and equipment. "Once

you've checked in, you're on shift," Mark said. "Then you are also responsible for getting your people to their designated work site, and you have to take care of the timekeeping, medical, safety and human resource part of the



*Wildland fires can burn 100 feet high and several acres deep.*

job."

All of this on top of being on the front lines with the crew fighting fires and constantly monitoring the safety of the crew, which is the top priority. Part of keeping a crew safe is knowing what the fire is going to do before it happens -- a term referred to as fire behavior. Detailed courses in fire behavior are necessary for crew leaders, according to Mark. "Fire behavior is kind of like Defensive Driving," he said. "You're trained to understand it, and by the time you become crew leader, you're experienced enough to factor in all the variables, such as weather, wind, fuel type, terrain type, and crew condition to know if the site is safe."

Crew leaders, according to Mark,

are cheerleaders, trainers, and sometimes peacemakers. "We get teams that are made up of different personalities and different cultural backgrounds," explained Mark. "Sometimes you have complete strangers thrown together for weeks at a time in a stressful situation."

This year, Mark qualified to become a Task Force leader. Task Force leaders are given a specific job and various resources to accomplish it. When he was in Nevada, he was given the task of initial attack on all fires in the northeast corner of Elko County, which covers a 3,000 square mile area. Mark was provided

with approximately three bulldozers, fire engines, airplanes, helicopters, and three crews to accomplish the task.

While in Montana, he was provided two crews, ten pieces of mechanized equipment including bulldozers, and helicopters to deal with a section of one large fire. However, according to Mark there was another factor to add to the situation in Montana-- the habitat of the Canada Lynx and Bull Trout, both found on the endangered species list was at risk. All the tactics used on this fire had to take into consideration the need to protect their remaining habitat. "You've got fire on both sides of you, you have to keep your crew safe and protect the environment all at the same time," he said.



Photos provided by Mark Rosenthal.

*Mark Rosenthal (first row, first person on the left) and his crew get ready to head out to fight a fire.*

Mark also said that when one is fighting fires, there is often little time to rest. It is not unusual for the crews to be working 14 to 16 hours a day. On occasion, crews will “coyote out.” This means that the crew will spend the night on the fire line sleeping in the dirt and eating MREs (meals ready to eat) for dinner and breakfast.

Once the fire detail -- which can span as much as three weeks-- is completed, the crew leader must go through the demobilization process which includes filling out the appropriate paperwork for each crew member, providing transportation, and if needed, a hotel for the night. Fighting fires of any type is dangerous work, but according to Mark, there is a significant difference between fighting structural fires as oppose to wildland fires. “People don’t realize how immense these fires can be, we’re talking over 100-foot high flames with five or six thousand acres on fire,” he said. “With structural fires, you deal with one or two structures. With wildland fires, you’re dealing with every type of fire situation.”

When Mark and his crew answer the call, he is often gone from his family for weeks at a time. There have been times when he has missed birthdays and anniversaries, but he says his family is very supportive of the work that he does fighting fires. “My family thinks

it’s kind of cool, and they have learned to deal with problems that sometime occur while I’m away,” he said. “I wouldn’t be doing this if they didn’t support me.”

His co-workers at North Hartland Lake and Union Village Dam as well as his supervisor, also support the work that Mark does when he’s out fighting fires and will take on extra work that can’t wait until his return. “I’ve sat down with them and asked them if it would be a problem,” said Mark. “They’ve been very supportive.”

“I’m very impressed with the efforts of both Mark and all the members of the Green Mountain unit, for giving up their free time, and risking their personal safety to protect others’ property,” said Park Ranger Roxanne Barbeau.

Gary Wheeler, Roxanne Barbeau, and Heather Morse round out the North Hartland Lake/Union Village Dam crew, along with Basin Manager Mike Curran. “Mike understands that there is a national need for fire fighters, and that I’m qualified to do this type of work,” said Mark.

Mark also sits on the Corps’ Fire Management Task Force that is currently developing standard operating procedures for training and managing prescribed burns and other types of suppression operations.

Fire fighting is done on a volunteer basis, and Mark goes on leave without pay when he is away from the District. There is a national fire program that involves the cooperative efforts of many of the natural resource agencies, such as the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service. The agency in charge of the particular fire that Mark worked on pays the volunteers, but it is a significant pay cut.

Mark has worked with many people from diverse cultures all over the world and has had many interesting experiences. “On one fire in California someone on our crew dug up a cache of arrow heads. The archaeologist on the crew felt the cache was approximately 400 years old,” he said. “Well it turns out that the valley we were in was the home valley for a Native American named Ishie. I remembered reading a book titled Ishie, the Last Yahi Indian. It turns out that this was his home valley and the arrow heads probably belonged to one of his people.”

Mark said that when he returns to Vermont after a detail, he brings his experiences back with him and applies them to his job as a Park Ranger. “I perform prescribed fires every year,” he said. “Anyone who is doing this sort of work should expect that a fire will get away from them, but they need to know suppression tactics when it does happen.”

“Mark’s work with the Forest Service has taught him skills and offered him training opportunities that he has brought back to the District and applied to both prescribed burn programs here in the district, and with other government agencies,” said Roxanne. “Also, I’ve observed in terms of his day to day work as a manager, he seems to have developed more patience with co-workers, and is better at putting things in perspective, quite possibly a result of his work supervising others on fire lines.”

If called again to fight a fire, Mark said that he would definitely go. “The service to the Nation is very important to me,” he said.

## Mentoring is the focus of Hispanic Heritage discussion

Mentoring children for the future was the focus of this year's Hispanic Heritage celebration. The event, sponsored by the Hispanic Employment Program, took place September 22 in the Concord Park cafeteria. Keynote speaker R. Liliana Palacios, Esquire, focused her discussion on the theme, "Children are our future."

Lt. Col. John Rovero, Deputy District Engineer, began the celebration by citing President Clinton's proclamation of Hispanic Heritage Month. "The proclamation highlights that Hispanics are already an important part of our Nation's diversity with influences that we all see and read about through cuisine, colorful festivals and the distinctive roles that Hispanics play in our Nation's competitiveness and the prosperity as we move into the 20th Century," he said.

Ms. Palacios, introduced by Hispanic Employment Program Manager Duban Montoya, discussed the future of Hispanic Youth. "The idea that Hispanic youth and Hispanic children are the future of the Hispanic American community, but they are also the future of the entire United States," she said.

Quoting from a recent Census Bureau report, Ms. Palacios said that ten percent of the population in the United States is Hispanic and the largest growing minority population throughout the country.

Children of today, according to Ms. Palacios, have different issues to deal with than children in the 1970's and 1980's. Added to the pressures of Hispanic childhood can be issues like unemployment, poverty, and language barriers. She said that 50-percent of all Hispanic children will drop out of high school in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The solution, she says, is mentorship.

"Mentorship is learning while teaching," said Ms. Palacios. "You can learn more about the Hispanic culture, and not just a few Spanish phrases."

When she was in high school, Ms. Palacios said that she was not encouraged to go to college. "I remember being the only Hispanic child in high school," she said. "I was told when I was applying to college that I shouldn't bother because I wasn't going to be able to afford it and it would be too hard for me to go and that I should look at

other options. My parents were very supportive and I had a mentor in the history department who said, 'Lilly, don't listen to her. Go to college. You argue really well, you'll be a lawyer some day.'"

Ms. Palacios then talked about mentorship organizations that are available, such as the Big Brother/Big Sister organizations and the Cambridge Community Program. She concluded her talk by challenging the audience to get involved and become mentors.

Lt. Col. Rovero presented her with a Bunker Hill plaque in appreciation for speaking. The Deputy District Engineer also encouraged mentorship and said that he is very involved in the Boy Scout Association.

Dianna Rider, EEO Officer, said that mentorship could be for adults as well as children. She said that she was going to take up the challenge laid out by Ms. Palacios and research mentorship programs in her area. She concluded the program by inviting everyone to a reception of punch and Portuguese pastry by Lucia's Portuguese Bakery in Nashua, New Hampshire.

Ms. Palacios is a trial attorney at the Boston Area Office of the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). She earned her BA in International Relations with a concentration in Latin American Studies from the Johns Hopkins University and her JD from Northeastern University School of Law. She is fluent in Spanish, French, and Italian, and has a general knowledge of German and Portuguese.

Ms. Palacios is active in the Boston area Latino community, participating as President of Region I of the Hispanic Bar Association, as a board member of the Massachusetts Association for Hispanic Attorneys, and as a member of the Latino Professional Network. She is also involved in many other advocacy, community, and professional organizations at a national and local level.



Photo by Mark McInerney

*Lt. Col. Rovero thanks Ms. Palacios for speaking and presents her with a Bunker Hill plaque.*

## Year-end accomplishments, individual and team awards highlight October District Town Meeting

In his report to the shareholders of the New England District, Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, commander, reported on the Corps achievements during fiscal year 2000, the Corps' role in bringing good government to many public processes, and the challenges the District faces in FY2001.

"You've invested your time and your efforts and your career in the goodness that the Corps of Engineers brings to the people of New England," the District Engineer told the audience as he spoke of the individual and team achievements that successfully guided the District throughout the last year.

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Col. Osterndorf first went over the changes in the corporate program trends in our Military, Support for Others and Civil Works missions-- and how the District's program execution was used to, "measure ourselves by how completely we are able to use the resources given to us this fiscal year," he said.

The District Engineer discussed the business efficiency of the District in various categories and the projected command goals.

Continuing the presentation, the District Engineer talked about the productiveness of the District using some of the many District accomplishments to include: two Hammer Awards (Boston Harbor and Charles George); Project of the Year Award to Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam; Protection of the communities we serve as a result of our flood control projects to the tune of \$680,000 in damages prevented; the 8,916 ships that safely transited the Cape Cod Canal; and the protection of the natural environment along with the 5,750 permits issued by Regulatory.

Many of the District's division offices accomplished many goals during the past fiscal year. Col. Osterndorf discussed each division, separate office and the Work Environment Committee, and talked about both the accomplishments and the offices' future goals and challenges.

Major organizational initiatives that the District will be looking at, according to Col. Osterndorf, include: diversity recruitment and developmental assignments; continued efficiency/effectiveness improvement and cost reduction programs; project management business process; a study of Construction/Operations field and staff integration; Strategic Planning Group's ten year plan; improvement of small business program and securing new contracting vehicles; and contingency and emergency preparedness.

Col. Osterndorf concluded his presentation by reviewing last year's goals and discussing the ongoing efforts to define the District's 2010 Environment; the District's core values "our foundation - our bedrock," and; to determine where the District wants to be in 2010 and build the way to get there.

During the awards portion of the ceremony, Joe Bocchino, Executive Assistant started the meeting by asking all the recent employees who arrived since the last town meeting to stand and be recognized.

The District Engineer then awarded Maryellen Iorio and Mike Keegan, the Commander's Award for Civilian Service for representing New England District on the Strategic Planning Team for the North Atlantic Division's Regional Business Center Concept. Ellen held the position first, and was followed by Mike. Brig. Gen. Stephen Rhoades, North Atlantic Division Commander, signed the awards.

Col. Osterndorf also awarded Hammer Award Certificates and label pins to the Charles George Superfund Team members Thomas Ayau, Annie Chin, Chiway Hsiung, Chris Scabia, Karen Schofield, Jenny Tan, and Mike Walsh. Debbie Gabrielson, Steve Johnson, Mike Penko and Marie Wojtas also received the honors, but were unable to attend.

Dick Carlson, Chief, Construction/Operations, and Col. Osterndorf presented the Roy F. Weston company with the District's Contractor of the Year award (see story on page 17).

Dick and Col. Osterndorf also gave out awards of merit to the team that received the Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam Project of the Year 2000 Award. Recipients were, Bob Hanacek, Basin Manager, Dave Stiddem, Project Manager, Dave Hebert, Park Ranger, Jamie Kordack, Park

Ranger, Merlon Bassett, Park Ranger, Tim Russell, Park Ranger, Jim Hachigian, Maintenance worker, Beverly Hilli, Basin Assistant, Keith Beecher, Park Ranger, and Cliff Reiss, Park Volunteer.

Lt. Col. John Rovero, Deputy District Engineer, presented the New England District team of the year award to the "Waterbury Virtual Team" who comprised of Brian Waz, Mark Geib, Karen Umbrell, Ed O'Leary, Mike Penko, Kate Atwood, Ed Fallon, Diana Eliseo, and Rich Ring. They received the nod for coming up with a solution for to a dam failure in Waterbury, Vermont.

Karen Schofield and Ian Osgerby were also recognized as, the 2000 Cost

*Continued on page 9*



Photo by Mark McInerney

*Col. Osterndorf prepares to address the audience at the Town Meeting.*



Photos by Kevin Burke

*Park Ranger Scott Barr talks about the Railroad Bridge.*



*Capt. Luke Lomeland (first row left) and Park Ranger Tom St. Dennis (far right) give the public a boat tour.*

## Cape Cod Canal sponsors Open House

Tourists took advantage of the clear, sunny day to attend the Cape Cod Canal "Open House" September 9. The event, held in conjunction with the Cape Cod Canal Region Chamber of Commerce Scallop Festival, ran from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Approximately 155 people traveled to the scenic Corps spot to take a tour of the facility.

"The Cape Cod Canal Region Chamber of Commerce asked us to sponsor the open house to compliment their Scallop Festival, and we agreed," said Park Ranger Bill Norman of the Open House.

Canal Park Rangers offered continuous viewings of the "Canal Story" video in the Ranger Station theatre during the Open House. The 18-minute video highlighted the history of the Cape Cod Canal and provided statistics and information on its current operation.

The Marine Traffic Control Center visitor viewing area was open to the public and staffed by a Park Ranger. Inside the control center, attendees could view the canal from different camera angles, as well as locate the cameras on the canal by using a scaled down model of the Corps project.

One of the canal patrol boats, staffed by launch operators Jerry Joyner and Jack Olsen, was set aside for on-board tours. A canal tugboat was also made available for on-board tours. Captain Luke Lomeland and Engineer Joe Moyer staffed the boat and answered questions from the public.

Other District employees who participated in the Open House were Park Rangers Roger Hagen, John Pribilla, Scott Barr, Tom St. Denis, Samantha Mirabella, Nate Joyner and Kevin Burke.

The Cape Cod Canal has been successfully hosting Open Houses for approximately six years. According to Bill, the Canal typically holds approximately four open houses per

year.

Open houses are only one of many activities held at the Cape Cod Canal. The Park Rangers offer 13 scheduled programs every week in the summer - daily tours of the Marine Traffic Control Center, guided walks, bike hikes, a Junior Ranger Program as well as nighttime campfire programs. Park Rangers also provide various on-site and outreach programs in the spring and fall.

The Canal provides a unique, close-up view of sea vessels and has over 14 miles of paved surfaces for recreational use, and enjoys the company of about four million visitors each year.



*Park Ranger Roger Hagen talks to a tour group inside the Marine Traffic Control Center.*

# Safety: Don't make your next call your last!

by **Bill Herland**  
Safety Office



Each year, nearly three million Americans are injured in vehicular accidents with 40,000 dying as a result of their injuries. Based

on studies completed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in up to 50-percent of these crashes driver inattention has played a part.

Leading causes of driver distractions include reading (maps, newspapers, etc.), changing cassettes or CD's while the car is in motion. However, in recent years, talking on wireless phones has appeared on the list and is rapidly rising to the top.

One of the most important tasks we must do each day is to pay attention while driving a vehicle. When you drive, your first responsibility is to drive safely. Paying attention is vital if you are going to avoid accidents. When moving down the road, whether at 30 or 65 mph just

a momentary lapse in concentration could cause you to miss the brake lights up ahead, drift into another lane or drive off the road.

Wireless phone use while driving can provide several different distractions like reaching for the phone, searching for the numbers while dialing and loss of concentration while engaged in a stressful or emotional conversation.

Wireless phone technology has allowed many of us to be more productive, but it carries risks. The most important thing that can be done to avoid crashes caused by inattention while driving is to avoid wireless phone use while moving.

Many states are considering laws to limit or prohibit wireless phone use in moving vehicles. Sometimes due to circumstances, the use of wireless phones can not be avoided. If this happens to you try to apply the following safety tips:

- Get to know your phone and its features, such as speed dial and redial.
- When available, use a hands free device.
- Always position your phone within easy reach.

- Tell the person you're speaking with that you are driving, and if hazardous conditions prevail, suspend the conversation.

- Never take notes or look up phone numbers.

- Assess the traffic situation. Never dial or answer a call if the conditions do not warrant it.

- Avoid stressful or emotional conversations while moving.

- If you have voice mail use it. Let the phone ring and when you can safely pull off the road check the message and return the call.

- Always use your wireless phone responsibly.

- Use your phone to call for help.

- Use your phone to call for help for others in an emergency.

- Know and use roadside assistance and non-emergency numbers when the situation warrants.

Always remember -- avoiding that momentary distraction may save your life, and the lives of others. When behind the wheel, your responsibility is to drive safely, and avoid that call which could be your last!

## Awards, presentation focus of October District Town Meeting

*Continued from page 7*

Estimator of the Year for the Corps of Engineers and the North Atlantic Division's nomination for Engineer of the Year, respectively.

Dianna Rider presented EEO on the spot awards to Dave Hebert, Joan Gardner, Frank MacDonald, Frank Turner, Tony Mackos, and Jackie DiDomenico for their support of the EEO program.

Jim Crawford, Work Environment (WE) Committee Chair, presented the Founder's Day Sports Tournament awards.

The tournament trophies will be placed in the display case in the building two hallway.

The awards went to basketball

(Phil Muller, Dave Margolis, Greg Buteau, and Robert Russo), volleyball (Bill Kavanaugh, Gary Morin, Duban Montoya, and Dave Lubianez), and horseshoes (Steve Eaton and Ed Fowler).

Jim awarded the WE Committee's Employee of the Month and Team of the Month. Norman Krause, Contracting, was named Employee of the Month for his exceptional customer service. Norm received a shirt, mug, certificate, and parking space for a month.

Joe Ferrari and Sheila Coulter received the WE Team of the Month Award for arranging the two recent bus trips to the Merrimack River Basin and the Cape Cod Canal. Joe and

Sheila received a shirt, mug, and certificate. Sheila credited the Park Rangers at the two projects with the success of the bus tours.

Other District employees recognized, who made significant contributions to the District's many successes in Fiscal Year 2000, during the Town Meeting include: Michelle Kewer, Sheila Winston-Vincuilla, Eva Marie D'Antuono, Rachael Raposa, Norman Krause, Jan Bacigalupo, Dave Goodrich, Cathy LeBlanc, Joanne Ellis, Bobby Byrne, Molly McCabe, Ralph Mallardo, Bob Henderson, Marie Connor, Barbara Ingersoll, Sue MacDonald, Wing Yau, and Joan Shok.



*John Kennelly's chip sets up for par.*

Photos by C.J. Allen



*Bobby Byrne attempts a bump and run to the 18th green.*



*Don Wood taps in for bogey.*



*Dick Carlson chips into 18.*



*Bob DeSista for par.*



*Col. O surveys the 18th Green.*

# Par Wars 2000

## Sandy Burr CC Hosts Golf League Final Tourney

by Larry Rosenberg

It was a season when the subplots might have outnumbered the scrambling pars.

Naysayers would have had you believe the 2000 New England District Golf League was going to be diluted, what with many of the players opting out. Think again. Many new players were recruited and many prior year members returned to take advantage of Sandy Burr's meticulously maintained front-nine each and every Monday.

But still there were doubts.

The season that began with a hole-in-one by Ellen Iorio, ended with a grueling three-week playoff schedule where friends edged friends out of competition for the coveted Gunnar Berglund League Championship Trophy. And on Thursday, Sept. 28, four individuals came through that maze with hardly a scratch to shake hands before grinding out the 18-hole final playoff match.

Bruce Zawacki and Jack Caffrey did not have to be told how significant the championship match was. Ellen Iorio and Jane Gronholm understood what was needed to compete and win at the Burr.

The league championship match between good friends, at the end of a topsy-turvy season, was only part of the excitement at Sandy Burr, where wind and slick greens made

for U.S. Open-like scoring.

The first final tournament of the twenty-first century, provided one more day of guilt-free competition and socializing among the 56 hackers who braved the early morning shotgun start. The traditional annual tournament was the perfect end to an almost perfect season. The 2000 season marked the beginning of Monday league play beginning at 2 p.m. – an extreme change from past years when league teams sought out their own tee-times at a variety of area courses.

“We decided to look at the 2000 league season as a work in progress – a year of transition,” wrote the league chairman in the weekly e-news update.

In April, after two months of conversation, Sandy Burr invited the New England District Golf League to tee off every Monday afternoon beginning the first week of June through the last week of August. But as the chairman warned in his first e-mail to league members, “the golf league is evolving... our league is being transformed... be careful of what you wish for as you may get it.”

According to the chairman, the league was taking a risk by establishing a set day and time for the league – asking each league member to commit to playing, and paying for, eight rounds over a 13-week season.

The New England District league entered into the new



*Jack Caffery, Bruce Zawacki, Ellen Iorio, Jane Gronholm.*



*Raimo Liias misses putt.*



*Duban Montoya.*

millennium with 46 members, 23 teams and one flight. “And as it turned out, nothing much changed,” said the chairman during the awards ceremony following the final tournament. “Nothing’s changed if the camaraderie at the 19<sup>th</sup> hole doesn’t count... if the Weekly Pool that paid \$1,170 in 40 prizes to 31 individuals doesn’t count... and nothing’s changed if you had a problem playing a nine-hole-round in about two hours!”

The 2000 season was unique in many ways. Notably, throughout the four months of match play, rarely was a harsh word or derogatory phrase heard – it was as if league members were warned that negative comments could be misunderstood as volunteering to be the chairman for the 2001 season. And so it goes...

• • •

At first glance, the two teams with the best playoff records were as different as night and day – two golfers representing the past traditions of the District Golf League and two golfers representing a new generation and traditions not yet realized. But oddly enough, it was a perfect fit, and a perfect match.

In the end, seemingly, Jack and Bruce understood best. Their unmatched play was steady, displaying a degree of tenacity from tee to green to ensure victory over first-time finalists Ellen and Jane. And next year, it’s anyone’s guess.

## THE BACK NINE...

The **John Murphy Sportsmanship Trophy 2000** was presented to **Duban Montoya** for his integrity, his commitment, and his support to the league over the past few years. **Ken Munsey**, General Manger of **Sandy Burr**, was presented a Certificate of Excellence honoring all the individuals at the Burr who supported the golf league during its transitional year. The league’s most improved golfer, **Dave Lubianez** who lowered his handicap by 23.5-percent, was awarded \$40 for his superb efforts.

Playoff first round losers – **Larry Rosenberg/Darrell Deleppo**, **Mark Desouza/Jack Perry**, **John Kennelly/Sue Holtham**, **Bobby Byrne/Dick Carlson** – were awarded \$40 per team. Playoff second round losers – **Steve Simmer/Brian Waz** and **Chris Lindsay/Lynne Bleakney** – were awarded \$60 per team. Second place finalists, **Ellen Iorio** and **Jane Gronholm**, received a team award of \$80 and payment of their greens fees for the final tournament. The **Gunnar Bergland League Championship Trophy** was awarded to **Bruce Zawacki** and **Jack Caffrey** who shared the team prize of \$100 in addition to payment of all their greens fees for the final tournament.

Following the tournament, New England District Golf League Officials for 2001 were elected. **Larry Rosenberg** was reelected chairman for a final term in office (really). **Bill Herland** was elected co-chairman. **Jack Perry** was reelected Handicapper. After two superb terms in office as Treasurer, **Dave Margolis** was retired with honors and **Shari Valente** was elected Treasurer for the upcoming season.

The rules committee of **Dick Carlson**, **Bobby Byrne**, **Chris Lindsay** and **Mike Keegan** were reelected to serve another term. **Bill Holtham** (June/July), **Mark Otis** (August) were reelected 2001 tournament chairs and, hoping to exceed the standard set this year by **Joe Bocchino**, **Dick Carlson** and **Buz McDonald** volunteered to co-chair the league’s 2001 Final Tourney.

• • •

The New England District Golf League was at the heart of **John Murphy’s** affinity for the game and an opportunity for him to display his love of the Corps of Engineers. John passed away on October 1, 2000. He was 95 years old and proud to have, as John would boost time and time again, “beat the system by hanging around long enough to make more in retirement benefits than I earned in salary” as the small business specialist for the New England Division.

John, who retired from the Corps on Sept. 24, 1965, was a founding father of the golf league and was always there as an advisor, and as a friend. John was a poet of sorts who will always be in our thoughts and our prayers.

## District's exhibit, activities a big hit at Big E! event

The Eastern States Exposition, known as the Big E! in Springfield, Mass., had many attractions and crowd-drawers during its run this year from September 15 to October 1. Among the cotton candy stands and the 4H Club offerings was the Corps of Engineers New England District exhibit. Approximately 800 people visited the exhibit just on Opening Day.

The New England District has been a familiar site at the sixth largest fair in North America for over 20 years. This year, its exhibit and Park Rangers were prominently displayed at the front of the New England Conference Center.

The Park Rangers set up a campsite complete with roaring (fake) fire, wildlife, tent and camping chairs designed by Park Ranger Roger Hagen.

An audio tape continually played animal sounds found in the great outdoors

In addition to the campsite, the District also displayed pictures of the myriad of recreational opportunities available at the Corps Flood Control



*Park Ranger Jason Trembly shows a group of children how to make animal tracks with Plaster of Paris.*

Projects as well as brochures and information of each area.

"The Big E is part of September, a New England cultural icon," said 16-year Big E! veteran Rick Magee. "It provides us with an important opportu-

nity for us to get our message out about what we do for the people of New England and where they can find us. It is a big commitment every year, but it is worth it in terms of the positive attitudes we help to create about the Corps of Engineers in New England. I enjoy the chance to put together a creative exhibit designed around a theme with the help of our team of rangers and managers."

"I enjoy representing the Corps," said Helen LaForge. "The 2000 Big E! was her fourth year helping out at the exhibit. "Each time I have worked the Big E, I have learned much more about the Corps, the District specifically, from the exhibit theme they have chosen. The past four exhibits have been Flood Control (wetlands and dams), Hurricane of '38 (1938), Cape Cod Canal, and this year's theme was recreation. There are always plenty of handouts (from PAO) and visuals (IMO) to share with the public, and to learn from."

The Park Rangers had many activities for children during the Big E! They included an identify leaves and branches game, a Cape Cod Canal Touch Tank, a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Coastie Boat and water safety programs. Two of the most popular attractions were the ani-



Photo by C.J. Allen

*Park Rangers Amy Johnson and Rick Magee join Woody Owl, a 4H volunteer, Bucky Beaver and Safe T Squirrel in preparing for the Big E! opening parade.*

mal tracks with which the children could make copies of animal tracks using plaster of paris, as well as the touch box, in which children would place their hands inside to see if they could guess what was inside just by feeling the object.

"I enjoy the contacts with people from all over the region-- the potential visitors to our parks, teachers who are interested in having Rangers come to their class, and the occasional person who visits the exhibit who can tell me things I don't know," said Rick. "For instance, we have had people visit with first hand stories of the 1938 Hurricane, and others who helped build one of the dams."

Special Corps guest stars were included in the Big E Opening Parade. Bucky Beaver and Safe T Squirrel joined the U.S. Forest Service's Woodsy Owl, Park Ranger Amy Johnson and a 4H Volunteer in a float, driven by Park Ranger Rick Magee, that was converted from a Corps vehicle.

Hundreds of people lined the parade route and cheered as the Corps' characters drove past. "It is always a very positive experience," said Helen of the Big E! "Another great factor about working the Big E is the Corps employees working it. I really enjoy working with the operation managers and their staff. They are all terrific folk and very knowledgeable."

District employees who participated in the Big E! event were: Jim Holbrook, Rick Magee, Gary Rogowski, Deila Vogel, Roxanne Barbeau, Will Rogers, Jason Tremblay, Rick Magee, Helen LaForge, Amy Johnson, Gladys Leone, Josh Lesveque, Zina Cassulo, Matt McClintock, Dave Stiddem, Pat Tetreault, Tom Wisnaukas, Bob Hanacek, Steve Demody, Rich Riley, Karen Martel, Mike Hayward, Donna Vondle, Viola Bramel, James West, Claire Sullivan, Dave Hebert, Jim Record, Roger Hagen, Kevin Burke, Samantha Mirabella, Fred Danhauser, Tom St. Denis, Dave Paquin, Dennis Arsenault, Tim Flynn, Tim Russell, Merlon Bassett, Jamie Kordack, Vinnie Gualtieri, Mark Wilmes.



*Will Rogers coaxes a child to test out the Touch Box.*



Photo by C.J. Allen

*Bucky Beaver and Park Ranger Amy Johnson wave to the crowd during the parade.*



Photo by C.J. Allen

*Helen LaForge and a young visitor demonstrate the comfort of Roger Hagen's camping chairs.*



*Park Ranger James West provides attendees with recreational information during the Big E!*



Photo by C.J. Allen.

*Volunteers planting for side erosion control spillway.*



*Woody Owl stopped by to greet the volunteers.*

## Volunteers key to success of National Public Lands Day

*Continued from page 1*

The event, one of the largest annual volunteer efforts held at the flood control project, began at Buffumville Park at 8 a.m. Buffumville/Hodges has hosted NPLD for nine consecutive years.

“We started out small in 1992, but every year we’ve seen public lands day grow. People in the communities here have come to look forward to NPLD each year,” said David Stiddem, Project Manager of Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam.

The Chief of Engineers recently honored Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam as Project of the Year. “The many years Public Lands Day has been celebrated at Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam (this is the 9th) no doubt helped contribution to this award,” said Dave.

Over 300 volunteers came to work at Buffumville, con-

tributing more than 1,200 volunteer hours-- a dollar equivalent totaling almost \$14,000. Among the volunteers were five Girl Scout troops, four Cub Scout packs, four Boy Scout troops, the Bay State Barefooters, Toyota Motors USA, the MidState Trail Committee, the Mark Carron Committee, the Oxford Navy Junior Reserve Officer’s Training Corps, and the Hodges Village Environmental Education Association. Thomas Ayau, Engineering/Planning, also sacrificed his Saturday to join in the work.

Two volunteers who have served four summers as Park Hosts at Buffumville/Hodges Village drove all the way from Illinois to help the Park Rangers get ready for National Public Lands Day. “They came for the short season, from August until October,” said Park Ranger Jamie Kordack. “Howard and Pat Southern assisted in the preparations for NPLD as well as helped me get ready for Buffumville’s Haunted Dam



*Young workers fill up wheel barrows with mulch to spread in various areas of the project.*



*A crowd masses around Dave Stiddem as he begins the awards portion of National Public Lands Day.*



*Volunteers pick the proper equipment to perform their task.*



*One group pulls out the heavy equipment to accomplish their project.*

tours that we will hold October 28. They were terrific -- I don't know what I would have done without them."

Jamie gave equal praise to volunteer Clifford Reiss, full-time Volunteer Office Clerk, who has been with Buffumville Lake/Hodges Village Dam for four years. "He's our right hand person around here," said Jamie. "He made up all of the certificates for everyone who participated in NPLD."

Volunteers successfully completed 20 projects that day. Some of the work included renovating hiking and dirt bike trails, improving habitat for turtle nesting and installing fish attractors, building trail bridges, controlling erosion, planting landscape plants, building steps and installing "family" tees at the disc golf course.

In addition, three grills, two park benches, two horseshoe pits, a rock garden and a pirate ship playground were installed at various locations at Buffumville Lake.

Local and national sponsors were also on hand to assist with NPLD. The McDonald's Corporation supplied a hamburger lunch to volunteers after their day of work was

completed. Michael Gagner and the Barefooters supplied backhoes; John S. Lane & Son supplied gravel and topsoil; and the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation donated posters. Materials and goods donated by the sponsors totaled over \$2,600.

"It is nice to see the public so willing to contribute to helping make this place better," said Dave.

Volunteers and sponsors are a large part of National Public Lands Day; but it is the District's Park Rangers who organize the event and handle all of the details and logistics. Park Rangers who contributed to the success of this year's NPLD were David Stiddem (Project Manager), Jamie Kordack, Ken Hester, Claudia Jean Hickson; Danielle Roberston (Temp), Jim Hachigan (Temp), Brad Walley (Temp, West Hill Dam), Keith Beecher and Merlon Bassett (East Brimfield), Tim Russell (West Thompson), Joe Faloretti (Basin Manager, Lower Connecticut River), Bob Hanacek (Basin Manager, Thames River), Bill Constantine (Seasonal, West Thompson).



*A team leader gives instructions to his young charges.*



*A team constructs a foot bridge at Buffumville Lake.*

# About the Engineer and Scientist Career Program CP-18

by Ken Hitch  
Engineering/Planning



Since I sent my message out to all engineers and scientists in the District with information from the CP-18 Program Workshop, I have been asked several questions. One revealing question was: "What is Career Program 18?" So let me start there.

The Corps of Engineers' workforce is divided into various career programs. The largest, obviously, is the one for engineers and scientists. The purpose or objective of a career program is to provide enough trained, highly qualified personnel to handle the future mission. So Career Program 18 provides for staffing needs in professional jobs by recruitment and career development. Recruitment is just that, filling entry-level and experienced staff positions. Career Development deals with more of what you think of when you hear CP-18.

There are career aids at all levels. First there is the Intern Program for newly graduated professionals. This takes entry-level engineers from GS-5 or 7 to GS-11.

Another little used program, the New Leader Program (NLP), helps GS-11's get to GS-12 and 13. Then there is the Leadership Development Program (LDP) that helps GS-12's and 13's get to be GS-14 and 15. There is an application process for each of these special programs. None of them are required; but, they are a tremendous help and are designed to develop our leaders of tomorrow.

There used to be a central referral inventory in the Corps that you had to go through to be selected for GS-13, 14, and

15 positions. That was what people thought of when they heard CP-18. It ended on December 1, 1999. Now all positions are recruited and filled by advertisements through the CPOC. So you no longer get on a register for senior positions. You must watch for announcements and apply, like anyone else, inside or outside the Corps. But there are some aids which I will discuss later. For more information on the CP-18 Program, see the CP-18 Career Planning guide, found near the bottom of the left hand bar (CP-18 CPM) of the District Intranet Homepage (<http://naeiis/>)

Another thing people think of when they hear CP-18 is the District Promotion policy from GS-11 to 12. This district is unique in that regard. It is the

Your individual development plan (IDP) is the best place to start. Work with your supervisor to write a plan including training and developmental assignments that will help you reach your goals.

Besides the prospect training and local University classes, there is the long term training program. Here, you decide where you want to go for advanced schooling and the Corps pays for the school costs as well as your salary while you are away at school. Coincidentally, applications for long term training are being accepted now. The deadline to have them into the District HRO is December 15, 2000. See Susan Rodkey in Human Resource for details. I promised to give you information on aids to help you in seeking promotion opportuni-

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**'The purpose or objective of a career program is to provide enough trained, highly qualified personnel to handle the future mission. So Career Program 18 provides for staffing needs in professional jobs by recruitment and career development.'**

- Ken Hitch, Chief, Engineering/Planning

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only District I know of that has a non-competitive promotion program to GS-12. Your supervisor nominates you for promotion with a justification that you are performing GS-12 level work and a Board reviews it for approval. There is also a self-nomination option, but your chances are limited without your supervisor's endorsement.

All of these things are part of the CP-18, but the bottom line, as mentioned in earlier articles, is that your career is your responsibility.

Training is a big part of career planning. Besides the Intern, NLP, and LDP, which provide mostly leadership training, you need technical training.

There is a website: <http://www.cp18and55.net> that allows you to register your qualifications and interests and then get automatic e-mail messages of job announcement matches. (This also applies to the Real Estate Career Program 55) Once you apply for a job through a CPOC, you can find out the status of your application by getting on each CPOC's webpage (available thorough Human Resources) and register in ROAR, a system that tracks your application.

I plan to keep you posted on things relating to Career Program 18. Don't hesitate to contact me at x78500 if you have a question.

## Roy F. Weston is named District Contractor of the Year

The New England District recently named its contractor, Roy F. Weston, Inc., the 2000 Outstanding Contractor of the Year for its exceptional performance as a hazardous and toxic waste remediation contractor. The commendation was awarded to the company during a Town Meeting held October 12 in Concord Park.

Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, District Engineer, and Richard Carlson, Chief, Construction/Operations, presented Roberto Rico, Program Manager, and Bruce Campbell, Deputy Program Manager with certificates. Also present from Roy F. Weston were John Hammond, Vice President, Eastern Division and Donald Grogan, Regional Manager.

"The contractor sometimes range the gambit from so-so to excellent," said Col. Osterndorf. "It's a great honor for me to recognize those that truly contribute and have the same spirit of commitment to the people we serve in our region."

"We don't give out very many of these, and to my knowledge we've never given one out under an indefinite delivery type contract that involves multiple delivery orders," said Dick.

Roy F. Weston, Inc., earned the



Photos by Mark McInerney

*Col. Osterndorf congratulates Roberto Rico and Bruce Campbell of Roy F. Weston for their exceptional work.*

acclamation for its professionalism and outstanding ratings while performing the various and often-difficult tasks assigned to it for the past two years. The work that lead to the commendation included piping modifications at a treatment plant and confined disposal facility in New Bedford, Mass.; capping a sanitary landfill at Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee, Mass.; removing contaminated soil at the Army's former Sudbury Training

Annex in Sudbury, Mass; and cleaning up the former Long Island Naval Fuel Depot in Maine.

The New Bedford effort is part of the cleanup of contaminated sediments in the harbor, and the waterway is being cleaned up by the Corps of Engineers for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Superfund Program. The other activities fall under the Defense Environmental Restoration program which provides for the identification, investigation and cleanup of hazardous and toxic waste; unexploded ordnance; and unsafe buildings, structures and debris at current and former military facilities.

"The contractor maintained a high level of professionalism, and demonstrated an outstanding level of cooperation," said Dick as he read the citation.

"Of course we all know the types of efforts that Roy F. Weston brings to the projects that we do," said Col. Osterndorf. "This recognition is well deserved."

Roy F. Weston, Inc., has been awarded seven contracts against which hundreds of separate taskings have been assigned, amounting to over \$103 million in work.



*The New Bedford Superfund project is just one of the many jobs Roy F. Weston is performing for the District.*



*The WE Committee Bus Tour group enjoys a day at the Cape Cod Canal.*

## We Committee: Tour of the Cape Cod Canal

Photos and story by **Sally Rigione, Public Affairs**

The Work Environment (WE) Committee was on the road again. Thanks to WE, 22 District employees were given the opportunity on October 5 to visit the Cape Cod Canal field office and learn what goes on there.

At Concord Park, the day started out bright and sunny with everyone silently willing the rain to stay away. Joe Ferrari, who coordinated the bus tour, especially wanted to see sunshine. He did not want his track record to reflect that both the trips he planned had been held with umbrellas in hand. On the first bus trip, which occurred June 6th to the Merrimack River Basin, it rained all day. On this trip everyone settled for overcast skies that kept the rain at bay until the return trip to Concord Park late in the day.

Upon arriving at the field office, Park Rangers Roger Hagen and Kevin Burke met the group. To make it easier for everyone to see, hear and ask questions, the bus tour attendees broke down into two groups. Both groups were given an opportunity to see a video about the history of the Canal, and afterwards about the function of the Marine Traffic Control Room.

Kevin joined the group and took everyone on a bus tour of the mainland side of the Canal. During the ride to the

Midway Recreation Area, the tour group passed the Bourne Scenic camping park, Herring Run, and Scusset Beach. Bob Zwalen, Construction Rep., hopped on the bus at Scusset Beach to give an impromptu explanation of the Sagamore Marsh Restoration Project. The project is in its 18th week and is expected to be finished within six more weeks.

Kevin continually shared trivia with the group throughout the day. "The Cape Cod Canal was opened, for the first time, six months before the Panama Canal," he said. "The current canal is five times wider and twice as deep as the original design."

Other trivia included: The canal saves a boat 88 miles on a trip from Boston to New York; the length of the canal from Buzzards Bay to Cape Cod Bay is 17.4 miles; an average of 20,000 motorized vehicles use the canal annually; and Cape Cod is the largest man-made island in the world.

The bus stopped at the Midway Recreation Area where everyone enjoyed a picnic lunch. After leaving the Midway, the group toured the Cape side of the canal and drove through the Massachusetts Maritime Academy before returning to the field office. Roger and Kevin gave the group a tour of the tug, "Bourne." The attendees learned about the side scanning sonar that is on board the "Bourne" and how the tug, "Manamet," has been used a couple of times as an ice breaker



*The tour group also spend a brief time at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy during their visit to the Canal.*



*A tour of the tug, "Bourne" was part of the agenda for those visiting the Canal.*

to maintain an open channel during bad winters.

Back on board the bus for the trip home, everyone appeared to be appreciative of the day and chatted happily. "This was good for morale, the Park Rangers really know their stuff," said Martha Rotondi.

"The tour was done very nicely," agreed Eileen Howley.

"Informative, entertaining and a good show," spouted Norm Krause.

"It was awesome," commented Cheryl Kassoy while Alexine Raineri quipped, "I wanted to drive the boat."

After a while, the chatting quieted down and everyone relaxed for the ride back to Concord. The passengers seemed oblivious of the rain falling outside. The only reminder was the

squeak of the wipers as they cleared the windshield for the bus driver.

A special thanks from everyone goes to the Canal field staff encountered in the hallways; Roger Hagen and Kevin Burke; and to event coordinators Joe Ferrari and Sheila Coulter.

District employees who took advantage of this opportunity included: Sandy Marcinkewicz, Ruth Tanner, Capt. Jan Malaikal, Tina Krawczyk, Phil Nimeskern, Alexine Raineri, Laura Lally, Annie Chin, Dot Tinkham, Lang Nguyen, Jeannie Warnock, Stephen Kelley, Barbara Duffin, Cheryl Kassoy, Norm Krause, Colleen Jacquet, Nancy Farrar, Martha Rotondi, Sylvia Woodbury, Eileen Hughes and Carol Husselbee.



*The group watches a video on the history of the Cape Cod Canal.*



*The tour group is greeted by Cape Cod Canal Park Rangers, who accompany them for the day.*

# Dredging up the past . . .



*Col. Philip Harris, Division Engineer, reads to a group of children from the Bright Horizons Day Care Center in this May 1992 photo. The day care center was located in the Waltham Federal Center facility, and the children occasionally visited with Col. Harris to have him read to them.*

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