



US Army Corps
of Engineers
New England District

Volume 38, No. 12

Yankee Engineer

September 2002



United in Freedom...

**The New England District Remembers September 11, 2001
See Story on Page 5**

Yankee Voices

Angela Wright
Information Management



Congratulations

...to **Susan Rodkey**, Human Resources, who was selected as the WE Committee's Employee of the Month for September 2002. Susan is recognized for executing an outstanding Summer Hire Program as well as the District's Co-Op Program.

... to the West Hill Dam Rehabilitation Project Team as the Team of the Month for September 2002. The team members are **Jim Morocco (Resident Engineer)**, **Bob DeSista (Project Engineer)**, **construction inspectors Randy Lecuyer, Chris Caisse and Conrad Menard; Mark Vance (Geotechnical Engineer)**, **Rachael Raposa (Contracting Specialist)**, **Mike Keegan (Project Manager)**, and the firms of **Soletanche and McManus**.

The team received the award for the completion and safe construction of a concrete wall at the dam one year ahead of schedule.

...to **Wendy Hilbrunner**, Safety, and her husband, **Stephen**, on the birth of their twin sons, **Luke William and Matthew Stephen**.

Aquaculture public outreach commended by private citizen

I wanted to congratulate you and everyone else associated with the Mohegan Aquaculture Permit application for such a fine report. You have addressed all the points raised in the public hearing and public comment in a very professional and balanced manner.

There are very few, if any, countries in the world that would have followed such a sound process and arrived at a just decision.

Making so much information available on the New England District website in a timely manner was an excellent step also.

My compliments,

Lou Allyn

(Editor's Note: This letter was sent to Permit Manager Cori Rose from a private citizen interested in the Mohegan Aquaculture Permit Application. The permit has since been issued.)

United in Freedom...

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Responds to World Trade Center Attack

In less than 24 hours after the terrorist attack on the United States on Sept. 11, 2001, a team from the New England District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers arrived in New York City as part of the total federal force to begin the Emergency Response and Recovery Operations.

A public website has been established with an account of the Corps role documented in a special online publication, a gallery of unpublished government photographs, an overview of the Corps crisis communications team, and other response and recovery information and links. Go to <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/wtc/wtc.htm> for access.



Front cover: (left) Maj. Michael Fitzgerald and Maj. Brian Green (not pictured) salute the U.S. flag at half mast as Col. Thomas L. Koning, District Engineer, commands ceremony. The flag was lowered to honor those killed during the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001. (Photo by Mark McInerney)

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 EngineerCol. Thomas L. Koning
Chief, Public AffairsLarry Rosenberg



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

Commander's Corner:

Because you asked... answers to questions posed at Town Meeting

by Col. Thomas L. Koning
District Engineer



Everyday I am amazed by the quality of people working in the District and the service given to our customers. The leadership of the District has been keeping my calendar very full as I have received briefings on each division, branch and section in the organization. Additionally, I have started to get out to the field sites to see projects, regulatory

issues, and to meet our customers. In all I do, I see individuals exemplifying the seven Army Values of Leadership; Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage. This is the bedrock of the organization. This is what allows us to be professionals and carry the great reputation and responsibility that we do.

At the conclusion of the Town Hall meeting in August, I gave all those in attendance an opportunity to tell me what they thought. I received over 150 cards which listed three "ups" and three "downs" about the organization. Starting this month, I will address those concerns in a special column entitled, "Because you asked..." I cannot address everyone's issues, but I will focus on a representative sample over the next couple of months.

Because you asked ...

I will start with the list of "ups" in the organization. I grouped similar responses and ended up with a list of 18 good things about what we do and how we take care of our people. Regarding seven items, over one third of the responses were in agreement. So, almost like Letterman, here is New England District's Top Seven:

Number 7 - "The gym is great."

Number 6 - "Benefits, such as promotion opportunity, training, AWA, sick leave, annual leave and telecommuting, are good." (In my next article, we will also address some of these as "downs.")

Number 5 - "The facility here at Concord Park is outstanding!"

Number 4 - "It is a pleasure to work here because of the skills, competence and professionalism of my co-workers."

Number 3 - "I love my job."

Number 2 - We have a great TEAM here; my supervisor cares about me. (I will recognize those supervisors mentioned by-name at a later date.)

The **Number 1** good thing about the organization is, "The

people who I work with."

I hope you noticed that three of the top four responses all focus on the quality workforce we have. They align directly with my command philosophy of Teamwork, Expertise and Attitude. I am proud of you and the organization we have.

The list of "downs" was much more varied and covered a much wider range of topics. I cannot address every concern in the Yankee Engineer, but I will address those topics that seem to have a general interest and applicability to those in the District. This following will address some of the issues the District raised in area of Logistics as answered by Bill Mahan.

Issue: Is something wrong with the temperature in the building?

Response: Our lease and the GSA standard says the

'Everyday I am amazed by the quality of people working in the District and the service they give to our customers.'

- Col. Thomas L. Koning

temperature should range between 68 and 72 degrees. Usually when we are asked to check the temperature it falls into this range. Nevertheless, some areas are difficult to adjust. You may be close to an outside door or at the end of an air supply duct.

When the seasons change it can be colder in the morning than it is during the afternoon. We have found that adjusting air flow by closing and opening vents creates more problems than it solves. If you are uncomfortable at the extremes of the acceptable range, please dress accordingly. Logistics has portable heaters that have been approved for use by GSA. These can be purchased at the branch level, with the supervisor's approval, for \$50 each. Under no circumstances are space heaters to be brought in from home. If your area is clearly beyond the acceptable temperature range, talk to your supervisor about relocating.

Issue: Why isn't the building/bathrooms as clean as they used to be?

We have noticed this too. We brought GSA in and confronted the contractor, who then took steps to improve. We believe things have turned around on this issue. Please continue to be our eyes and ears and drop an e-mail to Logistics if you notice any backsliding in this area. That is also true of

Continued on page 9

September 11:

Talking about personal impact one year later

While I was looking to write a story on the impacts of 9/11, I made my way down to the cafeteria to try to find people to answer my questions and discuss how their lives have changed since the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Instead, I sat down with Jayson Ilic, Michelle Clemens, and Judy Antonellis and listened to their views on life after the Sept. 11, attack on America.

It wasn't hard for anyone to recall where he or she was when the first plane plunged into the World Trade Center, and then later the Pentagon.

"I was at Children's Hospital with my daughter," recalled Judy. "They had the volume on the television up full blast in the waiting room," she said. "Everyone was standing -- patients, doctors, and other medical staff-- in shock, watching intently. My daughter wanted to know what was going on."

Judy said that she had a hard time trying to explain it to her child. "I didn't want her to get really upset, but I had to tell her something. As the week went on, we watched the news together and talked about it."

Michelle was at Concord Park when the attacks happened. "I remember that it was very hard to concentrate on work," she said. "I mean people were walking around numb or crying. How can you concentrate on work when the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were just attacked?"

"Everyone is going to remember where they were when this happened," said Jayson. "Just like when Kennedy got shot. No one will forget this."

Although no one could say they saw it coming, in retrospect it wasn't all that much of a surprise. "After the first attack on the World Trade Center in the 90's, I wasn't surprised that it happened," said Michelle. "But that doesn't make it less tragic."

Jayson agreed. "Terrorism is

everywhere, unfortunately," he said. "I'm surprised it took this long for America to be touched by it. It's an every day event in countries like Israel."

In the weeks after the attacks, it seemed as though every news station on every channel showed the planes crashing into the World Trade Center on a continuous loop, as if we were going to forget what happened only a short time ago.

The ghoulish saturation of the event proved to be too much for a lot of people. "I just had to watch something else after a while," said Michelle. "You want to

honor the memory of the people who died as best you can, but showing the planes crashing over and over wasn't the way to do it."

Judy agreed that watching the attack got to be overwhelming, but she and Jayson both said that they watched the news more than they usually did for updates on what President Bush dubbed the "War on Terrorism."

"There was a lot of critical information being put out and I wanted to know about it," said Jayson.

I asked everyone how they've changed, if at all, after the attacks. For the first time since we sat down, it got pretty quiet. Then Judy broke the awkward silence with a sentiment I think mirrors a good many people's feelings. "I feel as though my trust has been violated," she said. "I second guess people now who I wouldn't have before."

My trust has also been violated, but I don't lie awake at night wondering if it's going to happen again. I can't and I won't live like that.

The terrorists will indeed pay dearly for what they did and I can't wait for that day to come. While I'm waiting, I hug my family a little tighter and cheer for our troops a little bit louder.

I think we've learned that there are evil people out there that want to hurt us. And if they haven't learned that we're not going to sit back and take it, they will shortly.

- Commentary by Ann Marie Harvie, Public Affairs



Smoking rubble remains where the two World Trade Center towers once stood. The New England District remembers Sept. 11, 2001.

District lowers flag, remembers victims of September 11

The New England District did not dwell on the images of the World Trade Center Towers tumbling down into rubble on Sept. 11, 2001, but chose to remember those who lost their lives in New York, the Pentagon, and Pennsylvania. The District honored those individuals and the American spirit with the posting of the colors at 6:30 a.m. and with a moment of silence at 8:46, the time when the first plane hit the World Trade Center.

Employees arrived to work early at the Concord headquarters to watch Col. Thomas L. Koning lead Maj. Brian Green, Deputy District Engineer, and Maj. Michael Fitzgerald in posting the colors then lower the U.S. Flag to half mast. Security guards John Roberts and Mike Coutoumas simultaneously lowered the Corps of Engineers flag during the ceremony.

“We raised the flag to full-mast in honor of the men and women who share our commitment to liberty,” said Col. Koning. “We then lowered the flag to half-mast to honor those lost, their loved ones, and each and every one of us who now share their burden and their suffering because we share those ideals that make us truly the United States of America.”



Maj. Green and Maj. Fitzgerald unfurl the American flag during the ceremony.



Photos by Mark McInerney

From left: Maj. Green, Maj. Fitzgerald, Col. Koning, John Roberts, and Mike Coutoumas get ready to begin the flag raising ceremony.

The New England District paused for a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. in memory of the victims of the terrorist attacks. “One year after the events of September 11, 2001, we should pause to remember and honor the victims of the attacks on our Nation,” said Col. Koning. “The events of September 11 touched the lives of everyone in the District in many different ways. The environment we live and work in today seems very different from the days we enjoyed prior to the attacks in New York City, Pennsylvania, and Washington D.C.”

Col. Koning said that what has not changed is our resolve as a nation to preserve our democracy and strengthen our abilities to protect our freedom.

“The attacks brought down a symbol of economic might, but it was only a symbol,” he said. “Our way of life continues and our love for those lost will never fade. Today, we realize more than ever that we aren't a nation of one race, one color, one religion, and one perspective. We are a nation of many types of people, from every corner of the globe and from every imaginable religion and ethnic mix. An attack on us

is an attack on everyone. The terrorist attack on America was purely an act of hatred against civilization that will never dampen our American spirit, but draw us together and make us stronger.”

In addition to the flag ceremony and the moment of silence, Andrea Caporrella of the Federal Employees Assistance Program offered a seminar entitled, “September 11: One Year Later” at noon in the New England Conference Room. All District employees were invited to bring lunch and take the opportunity to discuss how things have changed at work and at home during the past year, and address some appropriate coping strategies.

Locally, Hanscom Air Force Base, the New England District's next door neighbor, held services at the Base Chapel. The town of Concord also held memorial services in various areas as well as a walk down Walden St. to a commemorative tree planting at the fire/police station.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts set up a 9/11 grief hotline (800-622-2735) for people to call if they had any questions or concerns involving the anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001.

Faulkner's Island Lighthouse turns 200: District instrumental in saving structure from watery grave

The New England District was invited to a birthday party on Sept. 7, but instead of blowing out candles, a light was lit – a light to guide and inspire – during the Faulkner's Island Lighthouse 200th birthday celebration.

Col. Thomas L. Koning, District Engineer, and Mike Keegan, Project Manager, toured the island as part of an open house and then joined Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro and other dignitaries on the beach in Guilford, Conn. for the birthday celebration event. Faulkner's Island is located in Long Island Sound approximately three miles south of Guilford.

Last year, the New England District completed the first phase of a shore protection project, which included placement of approximately 1,100 linear feet of an armor stone revetment and resloping and vegetating the bluff. The bluff on which the lighthouse sits loses six inches annually due to erosion caused by storms and waves crashing against it.

"This historic lighthouse reflects a long tradition and proud history," said Col. Koning. "I'm proud of the part the Army Corps of Engineers played in helping maintain that history and tradition with a shoreline protection project to halt the erosion that was threatening the life of this island and this historic lighthouse."

The \$2.4 million construction project, which included protecting the island's shore, protecting the historical lighthouse, and providing additional habitat to nesting Common Terns, was a partnership between the District and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

A Corps study indicated that the lighthouse would be in serious danger of

being lost to coastal erosion about the year 2013.

According to Mike, moving the lighthouse away from the bluff would not provide a permanent solution for protecting the lighthouse. "Erosion is occurring on both sides of the island and moving the structure would only bring it



Photo by Mike Keegan.

Col. Koning talks with a Coast Guard official before the ceremony.

nearer to either edge," he said.

Two species of migratory terns reside on Faulkner's Island -- the Common and the endangered Roseate. In addition to jeopardizing the lighthouse, the erosion is also causing an impact to the Roseate Terns' habitat.

"We worked closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the state of Connecticut to ensure that the rock revetment protection measures would be compatible with the endangered Roseate Terns that occupy the island from

May through August," said Col. Koning.

The District contracted Zenone, Inc., of Franklin, Mass., to perform the work. The project involved the construction of an armor stone revetment along the north point then along the east side adjacent to the lighthouse. Slope stabilization was required above the revetment along a portion of the island adjacent to the lighthouse. The revetment, which has a crest height of about 20 feet above mean low water, provides a 50-year level of protection. The existing slope was filled with compacted stone fill to a 1.5H to 1V slope. A three-foot thick under layer was placed as a filter. Armor stones weighing from 4,500 to 7,500 pounds were placed in two layers totaling seven feet. The upper slope stabilization consisted of compacted stone fill placed on the existing slope to provide a 1.5H to 1V base. The stone fill was stabilized with a geocell product that was filled with soil and seeded with native grasses.

Phase 2 work, consists of extending the protection further south along the eastern shoreline to protect remaining areas and tie into a stable shoreline location. The design of Phase 2 work will be based on the results of the tern nesting studies.

The New England District also partnered with Congresswoman DeLauro's office and the Faulkner's Light Brigade to complete the successful project.

In his remarks to the group that attended the birthday festivities, Col. Koning said, "I want to personally thank all the individuals and partners involved for their support and their efforts. Together, we will ensure that the history and tradition of this island and this lighthouse live on for our children to appreciate."

Chief of Engineers unveils new Communications Principles to Corps of Engineers employees; training begins in September

Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, introduced the Corps of Engineers to his new Communication Principles. The principles are the Chief's philosophy and direction regarding communication among Corps members to people outside the organization.

According to the Chief, the Corps held a series of listening sessions two years ago. From those sessions, he learned that many stakeholders and members of the public are looking for a better understanding of the Corps' process.

"Openness in government is the ideal in a democracy and essential to accountability," he said. "Yet our critics say we are not open and must be reformed to ensure that the public and scientific experts have a better opportunity to view and critique our studies and projects."

The Chief said that, although the Corps has a built-in public review which is required by law, the repeated criticism of the organization indicates to him that the Corps has not always communicated as openly or as frequently as it needs.

"Proactive communications will become a cornerstone of our business process, from routine to complex to controversial," he said. "We will not wait to be asked, but will constantly be alert for opportunities to provide information needed to enhance understanding whether there is an agreement or not."

In his memorandum introducing the Communication Principles, Lt. Gen.

Chief of Engineers' Communication Principles

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has proudly served the American people for more than 200 years. In war and in peace, the Corps provides essential services to the army and the nation, working closely with a variety of valued constituencies.

Accordingly, effective, two-way communication with these constituencies helps us build positive, mutually respectful relationships that are important to the successful accomplishment of our mission. To build and maintain these relationships by fostering a climate of effective, two-way communication, the Corps dedicates itself to the following communication principles. The Corps will:

❖ *Listen to all constituencies both inside and outside USACE regarding issues of importance to them, respecting their viewpoints. Seek opportunities for synergy.*

❖ *Communicate early, clearly, completely, honestly, accurately, and often with all constituencies on issues of importance.*

❖ *Incorporate communication as an integral part of the project management business process.*

❖ *Be accessible to all constituencies and respond promptly without censorship or misinformation.*

❖ *Proactively inform the public and other constituencies of the Corps' vital role in areas where we have special expertise.*

❖ *Do what we say we will do.*

The policy of the Corps is to communicate in an open, factual, and timely way with the Corps team, the American people, the Administration, congress, the international community tribes, and the news media. We will make relevant information fully and readily available to these constituencies consistent with law and national security interests.

Flowers wrote that bringing synergy to the Corps' business process also requires all members of the Corps team to be able to listen and work together with many people who represent varied and conflicting interests.

"The nation's needs today are far more diverse and complex than ever before," he explained. "The listening sessions held two years ago also showed that citizens desire a greater voice and interest in our work. It is our responsibility to ensure that they are included in the Project Delivery Teams and through

other venues in order to make them part of the solution."

Lt. Gen. Flowers said that although it will take longer, the Communication Principles will help the agency build collaborative relationships and become more attuned to the needs and values of those the Corps serves.

"These actions will enable us to anticipate issues and problems early on and address them as a responsive federal agency working for the American people," he said. "We are not a single purpose federal agency. We seek consensus. We will foster dialog and spend more time listening than talking."

The Chief said that the same principles that apply outside the Corps of Engineers are crucial within. "A free flow of information within the agency will provide the basis for capturing lessons learned and speed us along the way to becoming a learning organization."

According to the Chief, communication is essential to the kind of teamwork the Corps seeks within the Project Management Business Process.

The Chief will be conducting chain teaching of the new Communication Principles in the fall, but encourages Corps employees to begin using and implementing them as soon as possible. "I believe these will help to keep us mindful of and responsive to the nation's needs and interests."

Walk to Cure Cancer: District employees put on their sneakers to help stamp out deadly disease



Members of the New England District raised money for a good cause and honored the memory of a friend when they participated in the Walk to Cure Cancer on Labor Day, Sept. 2. The annual five-mile walk around Lake Quinsigamond in Shrewsbury, Mass., raises funds to provide equipment and researchers for the newly built Mass. AFL-CIO Cancer Research Center. The facility is located on the fourth floor of the new research laboratory building on the UMASS Medical School Campus in Worcester.

Employees, led by team captain Bud Taylor, pounded the pavement in the rain as a team for a second year and raised about \$3,000.

The bad weather did not dampen the determination of the walkers to finish the event. "Group misery in the rain is better than solitary misery in the rain," joked first-time event walker Drew Clemens.

"The weather was a bit gray, but everybody was up. It was fun and we had a great time chatting!" said Michelle Clemens. "Walking as a team is always cool because you get a chance to hang with folks that share a common goal. The time flies by because you get a chance to chat with friends and meet some new people."

Scott Michalak agreed. "Walking for a cure gave a feeling of mass unity striving for the same common goal."

This year's Walk to Cure Cancer held special meaning to the team. They dedicated their efforts to honor Bruce Chapman, who worked in Regulatory Division and was a team captain for the walk last year. Bruce died earlier this year of cancer. "It certainly was dedicated to Bruce, and it always will be from this District," said Bud. "We won't

forget him. His fight didn't end when he stopped walking with us."

Jennifer Flanagan, another first-time walker for the event, also has a parent

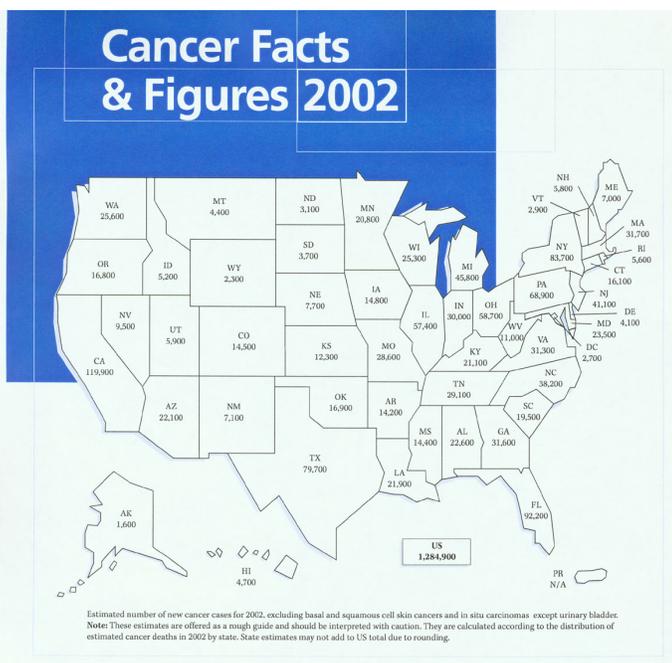
currently fighting the disease. "My father has cancer and is suffering from it now," she said. "Besides him, it seems like everyday, you hear of a friend or a family member of a friend who has just been diagnosed with some type of cancer. I think it's almost impossible for anyone in their lifetime to not be affected by it personally or indirectly."

Although for most on the team this was their first time walking in the event, everyone said that it will not be their last time. "This walk will be an annual event for me because as with any disease or illness, it's extremely important to find a cure and to recognize those

who are fighting it and remember those who were lost to it," said Jennifer.

"Walking to raise money for a cure is a way to personally feel like you have made a contribution to the search for a cure," said Scott. "It is a noble and humanitarian thing to do."

The walkers that made up the New England District team were Bud Taylor, Michelle and Drew Clemens, Scott and Jen Flanagan, and Scott Michalak.



Statistics on cancer victims for this year. (Graphic provided by the American Cancer Society).

Commander answers meeting questions

Continued from page 3

all building maintenance issues ranging from sticking doors to clogged plumbing.

Issue: What about clean vehicles?

Logistics checks as many vehicles as personnel and time will allow. Nevertheless, some sedans go out again before they can be inspected. The real solution to this lies with the last person who had the car. You should expect your sedan to be gassed-up and trash-free when you pick it up. Everyone can help out by simply returning it that way.

If you can't help but return a car in a particularly muddy condition, fill out a trip ticket that says so. Logistics will

then know the vehicle needs special attention and can take it off line until they clean it up.

Issue: Why are some parking spaces smaller than others?

The parking area was last striped before we moved here. We inherited a system that was set up to accommodate compact cars in one row and standard sized vehicles in the next.

It is the landlord's intent to re-stripe the parking lot before the year is out. We will ask him to make all spaces the same size as the larger spaces. This will result in the loss of 15 spaces. Hopefully, we will be compensated for the lost spaces by the decrease in parking lot dings.

Issue: Can I get into the building when there are no guards present, like on weekends?

The front lobby door can be opened anytime with your Corps access card (the one many of us string around our neck). Just swipe it through the reader.

All doors in the complex are alarmed except during normal business hours: Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6

p.m. The front lobby door is the only door you can enter and leave through, at any time, without setting off an alarm. Setting off the alarm brings a security patrol car to the building, and a \$70 bill to us for each visit. Please use the front doors during non-business hours.

Issue: Where can I deposit my personal mail for pick-up?

Take the elevator to the first floor of Building 1. Walk to the end of the mailroom and take a left. Take one step

and look at the wall on your left. You will see a special slot set up outside the mailroom for this very purpose.

Or you can

just put it in with the business mail from your office and Paul will pick it up on his regular rounds.

Issue: Can we get an ATM in the building?

Good news! Bruce Zawacki has been working this topic for a long time. The last major hurdle was cleared earlier this month. We expect to have an ATM machine in the building by the end of November. It will be located just outside the door to the Credit Union.

In the next issue of the Yankee Engineer, the "Because you asked..." column I will address several HRO issues: AWA, telecommuting, flex time, disability insurance, and dental benefits. In future columns I will address technical GS-13's, career paths for Rangers, concerns with automation, and more.



I am working on a suggestion box for both hard copy comments and electronic ideas that still protect the submitter's identity. I do care about what you think, and I look forward to reading and listening to your ideas and then providing feedback.

'I do care about what you think, and I look forward to reading and listening to your ideas and then providing feedback.'

- Col. Koning

Cape Cod Canal dredging set

by Timothy J. Dugan
Public Affairs

The New England District will begin maintenance dredging in the Cape Cod Canal channel at West Mooring Basin in Massachusetts in September.

The work is needed to remove shoals that are now limiting passage and mooring of deep draft commercial vessels.

The project involves dredging a total of about 135,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel from various locations in the Canal channel and West Mooring Basin and removal of two large boulders obstructing navigation: one just west of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy; and one opposite Cleveland Ledge Light.

Disposal of the dredged material will be at the previously used Cape Cod Canal Disposal Site and the Cleveland Ledge Disposal Site in Buzzards Bay.

A contract for \$2,386,500 was awarded to the Great Lake Dock and Dredge Corporation, of Oak Brook, Ill., in early August 2002.

Dredging is schedule to begin around mid-September 2002 and take about two months to complete.

The canal will remain open during the dredging operation.

Maintenance dredging of the Canal was last performed in 1999-2000 when about 125,000 cubic yards of material were removed from the Canal and used in conjunction with capping dredged material disposal cells in Boston Harbor.

Leasing new digs:

Real Estate Division finds new home for Armed Forces Recruiting Office

The New England District participated in an open house ceremony that introduced a new Armed Forces Recruiting Office to the community of Sturbridge, Mass., in August. Peter Quinn, Real Estate, procured the lease for the Armed Forces and represented the District at the event. Lt. Col. Christopher P. Costa from the U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion in Albany, N.Y., was the guest speaker. Mr. Walter Regep, the building owner, also attended the event.

According to Peter, the U.S. Army funded a fiscal year 2002 relocation to improve the Armed Forces image within the community. The relocation also accommodated the need for more office space as a result of an increase in the number of recruiters over the years.

"The Army, Navy, and Marine Corps had a recruiting office for approximately nine years in Southbridge, Mass.," said Peter. "They occupied approximately 1,092 square feet of first floor office space in a converted single family residence."

In February, Peter conducted an extensive survey of available sites in the area and offered the Armed Forces a variety of options for them to relocate. "We were lucky to have a wide variety of spaces to offer the services with Lessors (building owners) anxious to submit proposals for a new recruiting office," said Peter.

The leasing process included extensive negotiations, interior design and laying out a floor-plan for the new office space, developing construction specifications, and the selection of finishes such as wall to wall carpeting, ceramic tile, paint, stain,



Photos by Peter Quinn

The new Armed Forces recruiting center in Sturbridge, Mass.

etc. In addition, Peter had to negotiate the placing of signs and the oversight of the construction process.

The site chosen, the Sturbridge Professional Center, was a small retail plaza with five retail storefronts under construction at the time of the site selection. The Lessor was willing to negotiate with Peter on all the Armed Forces' needs. According to Peter, the owner allowed the government to lease the desirable end retail unit of the plaza, which would afford the maximum visibility and allow a large bank of windows along the end wall to provide light into the Armed Forces' offices. "The Lessor took obvious pride, joy and great care in the construction of his new plaza," said Peter. "The Armed Forces were the first of three new tenants to occupy the space."

The Armed Forces new offices include a ceramic tile entry and display area, three spacious offices for the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps, including their own individual storage and testing rooms as well as two handicap rest rooms.

The new 1,768 square foot office was completed and the lease began on June 16.

Real Estate's recruiting team has opened three new recruiting offices in Fiscal Year 2002. In addition, they have relocated 15 recruiting offices, completed expansions at three recruiting offices, provided upgrades such as painting and carpeting, and renewed 20 leases throughout New England.

The recruiting team includes, Dave Hakanson (Team Leader), Peter Quinn, Tom McNaughton, Fred Byers, Pam Bradstreet, Barbara Duffin, and Bill Gladman.



The former Armed Forces recruiting office in Southbridge, Mass.

World Masters leave their mark at Buffumville Dam

by Park Ranger Rebecca Tibits
Buffumville Dam

During the week of July 15-19, the world's greatest flying disc enthusiasts graced Buffumville Dam in Charlton, Mass., with their amazing talent and love of the flying disc. The World Masters Flying Disc Championship, which is held in a different location every year, chose the Army Corps of Engineers site to hold their 2002 championship. Along with the Buffumville Dam's course, a course in Brimfield, Mass., was also used for some championship play.

This event was sponsored by the New England Flying Disc Association, and without a doubt went off without a hitch.

There was never a dull moment during the championship. The best of the best -- young and old -- came from as far away as Hawaii to play in the championship at Buffumville Dam. The beginning of the week started with players familiarizing themselves with the course and for some, their new surroundings.

Some of the contenders at the "World Masters" were from the New England area and are regulars at the Buffumville course. The championship was a good time for players and enthusiasts from across the country to get to know each other and each other's tricks for being so successful.

After the players met and learned their new found course, it was time to start the championship. Bright and early Tuesday morning the fun began.

The week was filled with events that included distance and accuracy, a discathon that required great skill and speed, a double disc course that was a great challenge for partners, self-caught flight, free style and disc golf. After all of the players has a long and intense week of competition they were all treated

to a well-deserved dinner, where they accepted their awards for the week.

Players that have played Disc Golf across the country were asked what they thought of the 27-hole course at Buffumville Dam. I am pleased to say that more than one player responded with "It's a challenging course, but very beautiful and well



Photos by Craig Steffan

Disc golfer tries to throw his disc across the barrier to the other side.

maintained. I'm impressed." Others had mentioned how Buffumville's course has the perfect mixture of obstacles that include water and trees. "I love the great challenge!" said an enthusiastic player.

Once the dust settled and the masters were gone, we realized that now we have more people playing our course than ever before. We have large groups forming leagues, families spending time together on the course, and people of all ages catching the fever. The World Masters certainly left a lasting impression on the community of Buffumville Dam.

The sport of Disc Golf has been around as early as 1975. A man named Ed Headrick invented the sport. He modified some Frisbees™ by making them consist of different weights and he invented a Disc Pole Hole Catching Device™ consisting of 10 chains hanging in a parabolic shape over an upward opening basket, (U.S. Patent 4,039,189 issued 1975).

The first formal course was constructed in Pasadena, Calif., in 1975. Today there are over one thousand courses in the United States and over three million people play.



People of all genders and ages enjoy disc golf.

Dredging up the past . . .



Lt. Col. Stanley Murphy and Ray Francisco get a tour of West Thompson Lake from an unidentified worker in this June 11, 1987 photo.

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

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
Paid
Concord, MA
Permit No. 494