



US Army Corps
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St. Paul District

Crosscurrents

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Visitors' center to open at Lock and Dam No. 7

by Shannon Bauer

The old control center at Lock and Dam No. 7 is getting a facelift.

The building is being restored as close as possible to its original design and being opened as a visitors' center late-September.

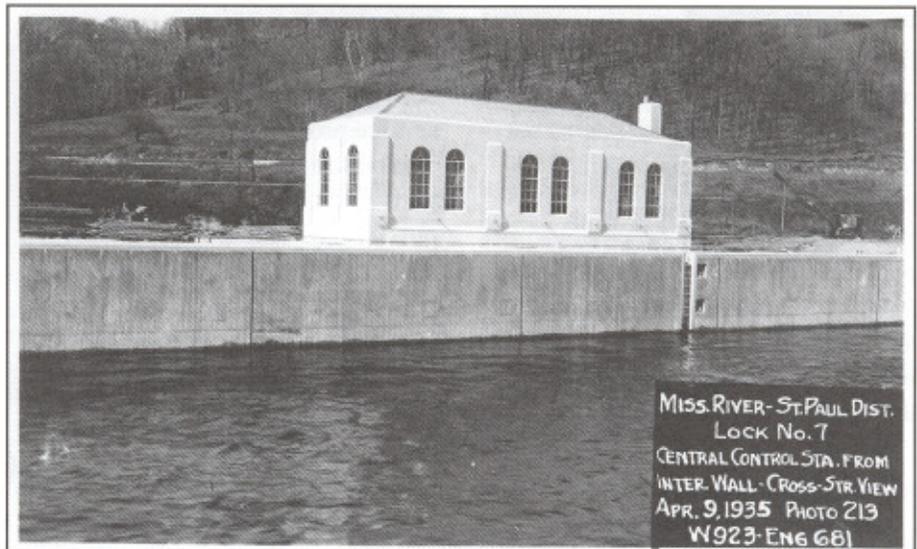
This renovation is part of a larger Corps' project where all locks and dams are receiving new control centers and other mechanical upgrades. The new control station at Lock and Dam 7 became operational last June. Ted Engliem, lockmaster, said he is quite happy with the new facility, as there is more room to operate in.

Finishing touches on the new building should be finished by June 2002 and the displays completed by September.

A dedication and grand opening ceremony is being planned for both the new and old control centers Sept. 20 in conjunction with La Crescent's annual Applefest celebration.

Dennis Erickson, navigation manager, said it was decided to keep one of the original control centers open to visitors for historical purposes.

Lock and Dam 7 was chosen as the ideal location for this, he said, for several reasons. "The site is



St. Paul District file photo

Old photos and plans were used to replicate the 1935 look of Lock and Dam 7 control station as close as possible to its 1930s design.

located about a half-mile from the Interstate-90 rest area, and lots of tourists stop there to watch the boats. There's also a lot of fishing going on there," he explained, "and there's plenty of room at the site."

Old photos and plans were used to replicate the original look of the building as close as possible to its 1930s design. Both the interior and exterior needed work to include pouring a new floor, removing lead paint, installing new sheet rock and more.

"The most architecturally interesting part of the building are the windows," said Erickson.

"We're putting windows like that [see photo] back in."

Carl Gray from the engineering division designed the new windows.

The interior of the building also includes a gantry crane, which will be restored and displayed for visual effect. This crane moves back and forth across the room on rails and could be used to lift and move heavy objects.

"Over the last 25 years, I was the one that approved all the modifications to this building, and now I'm the one trying to restore it," said Erickson, explaining that the

(Visitor center, continued on Page 5)

Contracting delivers performance with customer care, relationships

by Charles Horwitz
Chief, Contracting Division



I am delighted to be the guest writer for this month's editorial. Your contracting team asked me to share with you the new

face of contracting, our people and our focus.

Overwhelmingly, they wanted me to say that we care about our customer (you) and that we recognize we have to deliver by performance every day.

What does contracting do for you? We actually have two roles. First, we're a technical division and part of the delivery team, the same way we

might characterize project management, engineering, real estate and construction-operations. We're part of that team that delivers projects and products directly to district customers. We also have a role on the administrative side, writing contracts that provide the necessary support to keep the district operating.

The contracting team interfaces with virtually every office in the district. We create the relationship between the product and the service provider and the customer. The bottom line is if it has to do with a contract, a credit card purchase or procurement of any sort, then you are talking our business.

We don't operate alone. We work closely with and receive assistance from many of our colleagues in the district, functioning as an integrated team with a focus on delivering what you need when you need it.

What is it that we want you to know about us? We'd like you to know that we're on a quest, a journey. We haven't arrived at our destination, but we're moving toward it on many fronts. In a lot of respects, we are a new organization. We have a 20-person staff of which seven have less than one-year experience at the district, and we still have three more positions to fill. Our demographics show the changing face of contracting and the professional staff we have built.

The law requires new contract specialists to have degrees; therefore, 12 of our current staff of 17 have undergraduate degrees, four have advanced degrees and three have professional

certifications. Four of our new hires came from industry, one from the Navy and two from the Army. When fully staffed, we'll have three new contracting officers, seven new contract specialists and a new procurement analyst. We have literally rebuilt our organization.

We want to be a customer-centric organization and are seeking new ways of interacting with you. We're about delivering value to you on time, efficiently and within budget. To accomplish this, we're revisiting our processes, procedures and policies while simultaneously engaging customers. We are active members of project delivery teams and are determined to learn the project management business process. Our value proposition is that early involvement yields big dividends – the sooner we get involved in your planning process, the sooner we can contribute towards meeting the team goals.

The contracting team is developing measures you can look at to determine whether we're meeting our commitments via levels of performance. We want to manage our customer interaction at every touch point and provide a seamless, consistent, satisfying experience by delivering value and driving your success.

Although the acquisition process may seem burdensome and lengthy, we are trying to be innovative and leverage acquisition reform. We're committed to your success. We're going to continue to improve and work very hard to earn your confidence and to build a partnership with you.



US Army Corps
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St. Paul District

Crosscurrents

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District embraces seven Environmental Operating Procedures

by Mark Davidson

The employees of the St. Paul District are meeting the principles of the seven newly written Environmental Operating Procedures, recently introduced by Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, chief of engineers.

However, many of the employees interviewed for this story below said they, and the Corps, have always been trying to think of the environment on a daily, project-by-project basis, because it's the law and, more importantly, it's the right thing to do.

EOP One: *Strive to achieve environmental sustainability.* The district's environmental management program work on the Upper Mississippi River is a prime example, along with the district's interagency involvement through the River Resources Forum.

EOP Two: *Recognize the interdependence of life and the physical environment.* The district's work on the habitat restoration of the Pool 8 islands, Phase Two, near Stoddard, Wis., is a good demonstration of EOP Two.

EOP Three: *Seek balance and synergy among human development activities and natural systems.* The district plans to make use of more than 80 percent of dredge material, and the modification of dam operations to improve fish movement and improve tail water habitat, are good examples for this EOP.

EOP Four: *Continue to accept corporate responsibility and accountability under the law.* The district personnel, especially those involved with environmental matters, provide project compliance and continued

mentoring in environmental responsibilities, said Mose.

EOP Five: *Seek ways and means to assess and mitigate cumulative impacts to the environment.*

The district's collaboration with the River Resources Forum as a full partner is a good illustration of this collaboration.

EOP Six: *Build and share an integrated scientific, economic and social knowledge base.* In this instance, the district's monitoring of the EMP projects for their effectiveness is a solid example, and then using the information and knowledge from these monitoring efforts to refine future activities and sharing the information through the River Resources Forum.

EOP Seven: *Respect the views of individuals and groups interested in Corps activities.* The district works with groups from the Red River of the North to groups interested in the Mississippi River to groups interested in the zebra mussel problem.

Recycling practiced throughout district

by Mark Davidson

From the Headwaters recreation sites in northern Minnesota to the Fountain City service base down the Mississippi River, Corps personnel are committed to recycling. Here's a summary of various initiatives.

Headwaters recycling efforts

The Corps personnel at the six Headwaters lakes recycle most of

the standard items that can be recycled, such as aluminum and tin cans, batteries, cardboard, fluorescent lights, newspapers, oil filters, paper, plastic, scrap metal and waste oil.

Other Headwaters initiatives

Crosslake: "The campers are extremely helpful in depositing items in the eight 50-gallon recycle bins in two areas of the campground," said Deborah Griffith, park ranger.

Gull Lake: "We recycle all hazardous trees and use the wood to

heat the park manager's office and regulatory office," said Gregg Struss, park manager. "We also give some of the wood to the Confidence Learning Center here on Gull Lake. The Confidence Learning Center is an outdoor education facility and recreation area for developmentally disabled people of all ages," Struss said.

Pokegama Lake: "Last year, we donated nearly \$119 to the Minnesota State services for the

(Recycling, continued on Page 9)

Rangers teach water safety skills to students

by Shannon Bauer

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, held a water safety program for more than 400 students at the Viroqua Community Arena in Viroqua, Wis., April 15.

In cooperation with the Vernon Memorial Hospital Farm and Home Safety Day Camp, park ranger Corrine Hodapp and forestry technician Leigh Stuemke from the Corps-owned Blackhawk Park near De Soto, Wis., held 15 programs throughout the day for 11 area schools from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Hodapp and Stuemke demonstrated the proper wear of personal floatation devices, or life jackets, as well as explained what type to wear and why. "We show the kids why it's important to wear your PFD before you go in the water," said Hodapp.

Blackhawk rangers have been putting on this program for area youth annually for more than 10 years. "We get a great response from the students," said Hodapp, "so we keep coming back."



Photo by Corrine Hodapp

Forestry technician Leigh Stuemke discusses water safety with a young student.

Grades 6-9 receive forestry and safety tutorials at river festival

by Leigh Stuemke

Corps personnel Dan Oles, Corrine Hodapp, Gail Weigel, Justin Elmore and Leigh Stuemke taught basic forestry and water safety to about 600 sixth-, seventh-, eighth- and ninth-grade students at the Upper Mississippi River Festival May 14 and 15 in Wyalusing State Park south of Prairie du Chien, Wis.

Oles and Stuemke work out of the natural resource project office in La Crescent, Minn., as a forester and forestry technician, respectively. Hodapp,

Weigel and Elmore are park rangers at Blackhawk Park in De Soto, Wis.

The festival is a collaboration among federal, state and private

sector agencies. This was the second consecutive year for the event which was held at the state park south of Prairie du Chien.



Dan Oles, far right, shows students how to identify trees in the basic forestry unit of the Upper Mississippi River Festival. This is the second year for the festival, which is a collaboration of federal and state resource agencies and others.

Photo by Corrine Hodapp

Martin works his way from deck hand to master

by Daniel Yang

Arley "Butch" C. Martin, III, was recently promoted to master of the Dredge William A. Thompson. Martin was the first mate aboard the Dredge Thompson prior to his promotion to captain. He started as a deckhand on the dredge more than 16 years ago and has worked his way up through the ranks.

He was selected for the position opening of captain after the death of Dredge Thompson's previous captain David Peck. Martin said he attributes the credit for where he is today to Peck, who was a great mentor and friend during their time spent together traveling up and down the Mississippi River on the Dredge Thompson.

"When I became first mate, David Peck took me under his wing and taught me everything I needed to know. Everyone on this dredge, especially myself, owe David a lot for what he shared with us. He guided me to be able to maintain the dredge and the crew as if I were captain," said Martin.

When Martin shared the news of his promotion with his family in Nelson, Wis. they were all thrilled, he said. His wife, two daughters and grandchildren were all "very proud of poppa becoming captain."

Someone not around to share in the happiness was his grandfather. "My grandfather always told me to join the Corps or to become a pilot. Now, I've become both. I pilot a dredge for the Corps," said Martin. "I wish he could see me now. I think it would have made him quite proud."

As the captain on the Dredge Thompson, Martin will lead a crew of 57. He thinks the biggest challenge and most exciting thing he will face is entering a new era of dredging. "I am looking forward to taking the crew into the future and all it's new technology," said Martin. It will be exciting to guide the crew into a new mindset. It's a challenge that I want."

Martin has been forced to face other challenges on the dredge long before becoming captain. His many years on the dredge have meant much time spent away from family and friends. He said they've gotten used to his time spent away on board ship and Martin has learned to accept it.

"I love being a river rat. Working on the dredge is not the same thing day in and day out. You have to learn to change with the river. The dredge has become a significant part of my life," said Martin. "Life on the dredge is like living in a little city," he continued. "We get five great home-style meals per day and an amazing river view. You learn to live with the sounds and vibrations of the dredge. I actually can sleep a lot better when dredging than when we're still. I love my job, I wouldn't trade places with anyone."

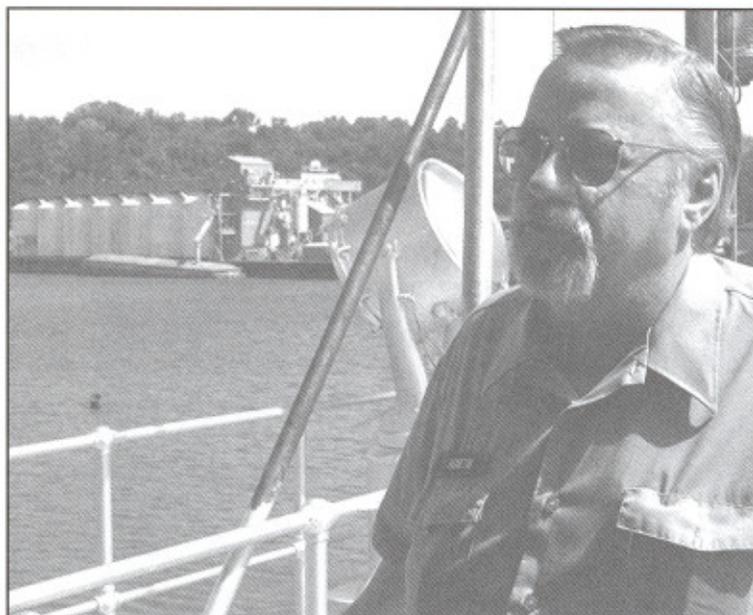


Photo by Peter Verstegen

Arley "Butch" Martin, III, watches dredging operations from the deck of the Dredge Thompson on the Mississippi River near St. Paul last year.

(Visitor center, continued from Page 1) building had been terribly energy inefficient. "They say now I can repent."

About the renovation, Dick Otto, operations manager for natural

resources, said, "The general public will have a nice place to visit and will be introduced to the Army Corps." He said they'll see displays on the national, division and district missions, the history and geology of

the river and how a lock and dam operates, as well as observe the operation up close.

John Fisher, engineering division, is designing the displays.

Struss, Gull Lake rangers construct habitat

by Shannon Bauer

Gull Lake Park Manager Gregg Struss just finished putting out the loon platforms for the season.

Its spring, and this is just one of the many volunteer, on-leave activities Struss does for the benefit of Gull Lake wildlife and other government agencies.

In addition to the platforms, he completes a grouse survey late April, a woodcock survey late May and a loon survey late June. With the help of park rangers Bob Espenson and Mary Kay Larson, he also adds a few more wood duck houses throughout the Gull Lake Park every three or four seasons.

"I grew up in the time of [President John] Kennedy. And at that time it was, 'Ask what you could do for your country, not what

your country can do for you'" said Struss, when asked why he volunteers. "If I can do a little extra at my job, I will.

"I just enjoy the outdoors and being outside," he continued. "You hear all this stuff, and you think all the wildlife is going away. It's nice to actually see and experience it."

Struss said he started putting out the loon platforms two years ago, after listening to a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources representative talk about them at a Gull Lake Association meeting, which he attended because of work.

Loons nest near the shoreline, so they're vulnerable to flooding and the wakes of boats. The platforms, constructed with PVC pipe and chain link, rise and fall with the water levels and are to assist in chick survival.

Loons are territorial, said Struss, so there's only enough shoreline at the Corps' park to put out two platforms a year. In the first year, one loon family nested and successfully raised a chick; but last year, no loons moved in. "But with many people around the lakes doing this," he said, "we've noticed an increase in their number."

Late April is grouse survey time.

For the past 15 years, Struss has been participating in this survey in the Gull Lake area, specifically the Pillsbury State Forest, for the DNR.

The survey starts at sunrise and involves listening four minutes, driving a half-mile, listening four minutes and doing it again for a total of 10 stops. "You listen for the drumming sound they make," he said. "Once you know what you're listening for, it's not hard."

The woodcock survey late May is similar. It involves going out at dusk and listening at various stops for their *peenting* sounds, a rhythmic and repetitive buzz that marks mating season. Struss has been doing this for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the past 22 years.

"The woodcock isn't endangered. People hunt them, but there's a general concern that their numbers are dropping," he said. "They don't know why, but degradation and loss of habitat could be a factor."

Once, while completing a woodcock survey, added Struss, a bear came out of nowhere and was running right at him. "He stood up on his hind legs and growled at me," he said. "Neither of us really looked at each other. We both ran."

For about 10 years now, Struss has also participated in a loon survey for the DNR. It's an all-day affair that involves covering 10 lakes in the Gull Lake chain by boat. He takes a student co-op with him to introduce him or her to the lakes at the same time.

At the Corps' park, with Espenson and Larson, he's put up 45 wood duck houses in the last few years.

(Habitat, continued, next page)



St. Paul District photo

Gregg Struss, with the help of park rangers Bob Espenson and Mary Kay Larson, works with state and private nonprofit agencies on projects to benefit wildlife in the Gull Lake region.

(Habitat, continued from previous page)

With their habitat dwindling, he explained, they needed a place to nest.

The common golden eye, wood duck and the hooded merganser have moved in, as well as a few others, such as the occasional squirrel. "The population's been doing really well now [since putting up the houses]," said Struss. "Each year, we've seen more and more wood ducks and chicks."

Struss began working with the Corps 25 years ago. He's worked at Leech, Pokegama, Winnibigoshish and Cross lakes and, for the last 16, at Gull. He studied natural resources in college, he said, and he's always had an interest in the area.

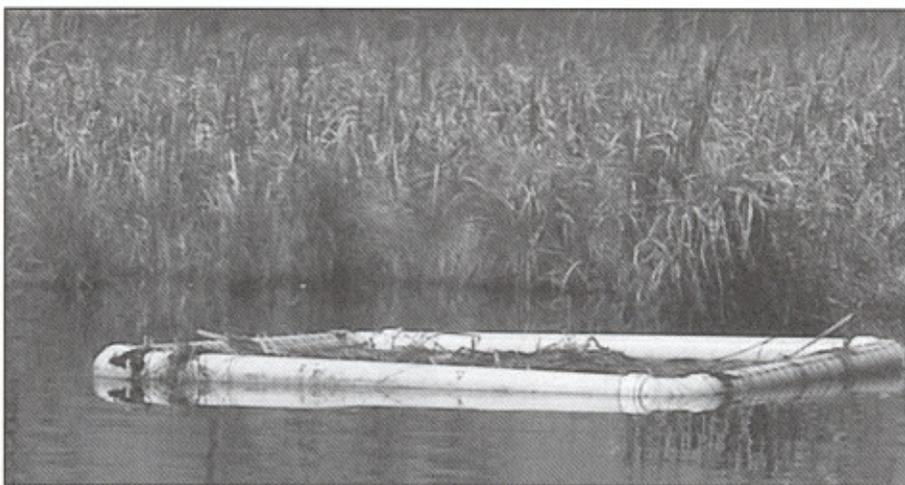


Photo by Gregg Struss

Loons nest near the shoreline and are vulnerable to flooding and the wakes of boats. Nesting platforms (above) are constructed with PVC pipe and chain link fence to rise and fall with the water levels and to assist in chick survival.

Scenic trail dedicated at Lake Ashtabula site

by Shannon Bauer

St. Paul District celebrated National Trail Day with the opening of a new segment of the North Country National Scenic Trail on its Lake Ashtabula recreation site in Valley City, N.D., June 1.

The North Country National Scenic Trail, when

finished, will link New York's Adirondack Mountains with the Missouri River in North Dakota, covering around 4,300 miles and crossing seven states en route. To date, it is more than 50 percent complete.

This new segment of the trail marks the last large publicly owned portion of the route in North Dakota to be scouted, marked and mowed. The trail starts at the village of Sibley, N.D., and runs north along the west shore of Lake Ashtabula for 12 miles. A remote campsite was added along the trail.

The North Country Trail Association, a nonprofit group promoting the trail, provided the Corps of Engineers with volunteers and some financial assistance to finish the trail on its land. This group is working with private landowners to plan additional segments of the trail.

The dedication celebration was June 1, in Sibley at the Corps of Engineers boat ramp on Highway 26. The event included a ribbon-cutting ceremony; guest speakers from the Corps of Engineers; the North Country Trail Association and Mark Zimmerman with the North Dakota Tourism Office; a short hike on the trail; and lunch. Many interested hikers and trail enthusiasts attended.



Concrete and cornstalks help save Rapidan Dam

by Peter Verstegen

Cornstalks and hay, combined with clay pellets and a few sandbags, plugged the tainter gates at Rapidan Dam near Mankato, Minn., April 16.

Water from the Blue Earth River slowed to a trickle down the spillway of the dam. The field roughage had done its job.

Trees and other natural debris had dented the gates through the years and earlier attempts to plug the flow of water with sandbags were only partially successful.

Plugging and diverting the flow through the gates would allow the Corps and its contractor to work at the base of the spillway to drill holes and pour concrete beneath the dam. When the temporary fix was complete, the gates would be opened and the roughage washed downriver.

Tainter gates control the flow of water through a dam. They are shaped like a piece of pie, with the curved surface against the force of water and with the pointed end pinned to the sides of the dam. Chains lift the gates up and down.

The 92-year-old hydroelectric dam had been in danger of failing because large holes, one as big as a two-story home, undermined the structure. The county-owned dam is southwest of Mankato, Minn.

The district prepared a contract for bid on the failing dam in a record two days and awarded a contract to Southern Minnesota Construction, Inc., April 12.

The Corps' contractor drilled holes through a spillway six- to 12-foot thick with an eight-inch core bit and pumped more than 2,300 cubic



St. Paul District photo

Left to right are Alan Forsberg, director of public works for Blue Earth County; Melissa Gulan, eastern area engineer; and John Bailen, chief of engineering division. They stand atop the Rapidan Dam near Mankato, Minn. The 92-year-old hydroelectric dam had been in danger of failing because large holes, one as big as a two-story home, undermined the structure.

yards of concrete beneath the dam to buttress the foundation.

"We pumped in enough concrete to cover a football field with concrete 16-inches thick," said Darrell Morey, a geotechnical and materials engineer. Morey was on site between April 13-26.

The solution to use field roughage for the repairs came from John Staige, a derrick boat operator in Fountain City, Wis. A pile of corncobs that he saw in a field during the 280-mile drive to Rapidan April 15 inspired him.

"We had used cracked corn for small leaks at the locks during dewatering," Staige said. "But this was a big leak, and we needed something to take more pressure from the water." So, Staige suggested chunks of baled hay and the cornstalks.

"We mixed in about 20 40-pound

bags of bentonite pellets with corn stalks and hay," said Morey. Bentonite becomes gummy and expansive when wet. Workers loaded the mixture into a boat and glided to the gates.

They shoved the field roughage beneath the water with a pitchfork. "The leaking gate draws in the material," said Alan Forsberg, director of public works for Blue Earth County. The coarser material went down first with the bentonite providing the glue.

Forsberg said workers had tried sandbags earlier with some success, but not enough.

Engineers also placed two tilt meters at the dam – one on the bridge on top of the dam and another on a buttress inside the dam. "We were looking for a creep in the movement of the dam," said

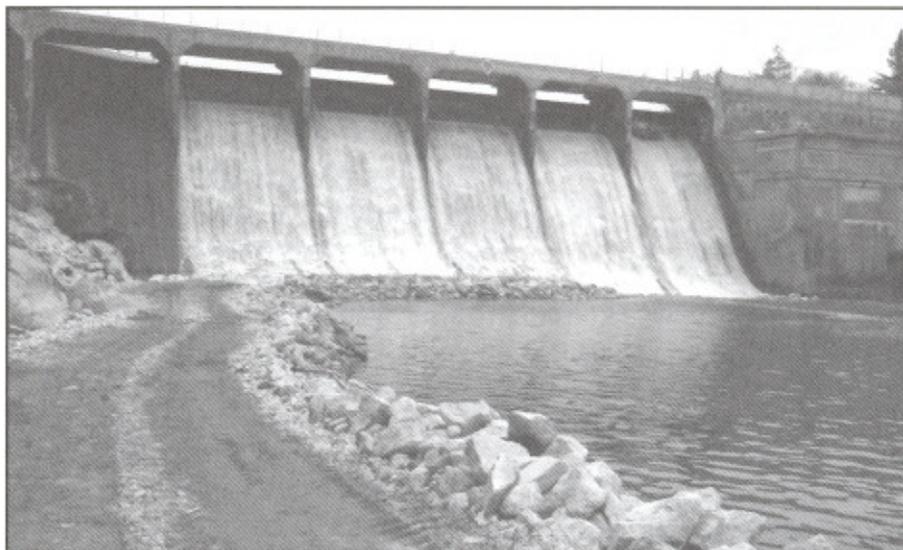
(Rapidan, continued on next page)

(Rapidan, cont. from previous page)

Morey, as an early warning to structural failure. Dam failure would mean loss of wetlands, flooded campgrounds, an impact to water supply at Mankato, loss of power generation, instability of the Highway 9 bridge, closure of county facilities, an impact on the Mankato flood control project and contamination of the Minnesota River.

“I was surprised how fast the project went,” said Kurt Heckendorf, a construction inspector. “We worked 24/7. We completed a \$1 million project in about a week’s time,” he said.

The Corps completed emergency repairs May 1. Rock fill on the downstream side of the dam and concrete beneath the structure helped to resolve the immediate threat of dam failure. The contractor hauled in more than 9,000 tons of rock.



St. Paul District photo

The St. Paul District completed emergency repairs at Rapidan Dam in early May. The contractor hauled in more than 9,000 tons of rock as part of repairs. The access road to the base of the dam is made of rock while rock at the base of the spillway provides temporary scour protection.

The dam is still vulnerable to failure, especially in the event of high rains. Dave Christenson, chief of readiness, said county officials

would need to continue looking at long-term protective measures to stabilize the structure.

(Recycling, continued from Page 3)

blind out of monies collected from recycling items,” said Jeffrey Kleinert, park manager. “We also donated plastic containers to the Hired Hands Center in Deer River, Minn., a center where disadvantaged adults earn a living with minor supervision. There, the plastic containers are turned into manufactured items such as plastic picnic tables and dimensional lumber.”

Other recreation sites

Eau Galle: “We have an active recycling program at our beach area and in our picnic shelter area,” said Dave Reynolds, park ranger. “We encourage recycling on all of our brochures and through interpretive programs.”

Lac Qui Parle: “We let a local Boy Scout troop place a trailer at our recreation site to collect aluminum cans,” said Randy Melby, park ranger. “Money collected from depositing of the cans at a local recycling center is used for the scout’s camping gear or camp outs.”

District Headquarters

Logistics management buys recycled paper for use in the many printers, according to Debbie Marshall. “We also provide receptacles for recycling paper and can and plastic on each floor and in the break rooms,” said Marshall.

Fountain City

The people that work at the locks and dams are always looking for ways to conserve energy, according to Dean Peterson of the locks and dams project office. “Aside from the normal items to recycle, we recycle oil at the boatyard by pouring it into a large tank which is then used for heating oil,” said Peterson.

The employees that work on the dredge recycle oil from oil changes and other sources and use it in two waste oil furnaces at Fountain City, Wis., according to Tom Oksness, supervisor with the physical support branch. “The other sources are the dredge, our tenders and the other floating plant that produces a waste oil product.”

District relocates mussels

by Shannon Bauer

St. Paul District released its draft plan to establish new populations of the native, endangered Higgins' eye pearly mussel in the Upper Mississippi River April 15.

This long-term solution to the survival of the Higgins' eye is being coordinated in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the U.S. Geological Survey; the National Park Service; the U.S. Coast Guard; the departments of natural resources from Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin; and the Science Museum of Minnesota. It involves establishing new populations, through relocation, of the Higgins' eye. The Corps is

also conducting a separate study for the long-term population control of the zebra mussel.

The Corps' \$2.4 million plan took two years to develop. It stems from an April 2000 Fish and Wildlife report that said continued operation of the nine-foot navigation channel on the Upper Mississippi River system would likely jeopardize the continued existence of the Higgins' eye.

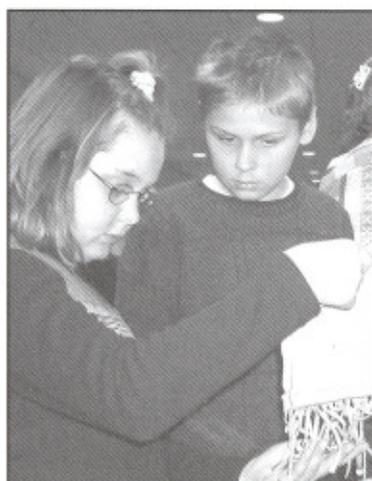
"Due to the upstream transport by commercial barges and recreational craft, the Asian native zebra mussels are now found in the Mississippi River. These zebra mussels have an adverse impact on the Higgins' eye and other native freshwater mussels," said Dennis Anderson, district biologist and project manager. "They cover the native mussels completely, so the native mussels can't open up and they die."

The Corps will establish 10

Higgins' eye relocation sites to ensure at least five new populations survive. Specific sites have not been determined but potential locations include the Rock and Kankakee rivers in Illinois; the Iowa, Cedar, Des Moines, Upper Iowa, Turkey and Wapsipinicon rivers in Iowa; the Wisconsin, Chippewa and Black rivers in Wisconsin; from the head of the navigation to Monticello, Minn.; pools 1 through upper 4 and pool 24 on the Upper Mississippi; and the first 30 miles of the St. Croix River above Taylors Falls, Minn.

The relocation efforts involve collecting adult Higgins' eye from areas heavily infested with zebra mussels and cleaning and moving them to areas of minimal or no zebra mussels. It will also include raising juvenile mussels on host fish species and at hatcheries with subsequent stocking at the relocation sites.

'Take Your Child to Work' day on April 25 brings in 36 children



Photos by Peter Versteegen

In the photo left are Delores Aldinger and her son, Nicholas. In the center photo, Carolyn and Rick Dahlquist examine a replica of items of the fur traders in early Minnesota. Right photo, Elana Zien and Linda Wiley from the equal employment opportunity office visit with Ray Nelson from Cross Lake Recreation Area. Nelson dressed in a costume representative of the fur-trading period.

Bits and Pieces

O'Hara promoted

Deputy District Engineer **Thomas O'Hara, Jr.**, was promoted to



O'Hara

Carolina when he administered the promotion order to O'Hara.

O'Hara deployed later that week in support of the XVIII Airborne Corps. The XVIII Airborne Corps received an order to deploy as part of the repositioning of U.S. military forces to prepare for and support the campaign against terrorism.

Mark Nelson, chief of real estate, assumed the duties of the deputy district engineer in O'Hara's



Nelson

given me over the last nine months," said O'Hara.

Kudos

Kevin Berg, resource manager at the natural resources office in La Crescent, Wis., and **Lorilee Taylor**, engineering technician in the engineering division design branch,

were selected for the Mississippi Valley Division Emerging Leaders Program April 19.

Community Relations Efforts

Leech Lake park manager **Tim Rennecke** spoke about water issues with the Leech Lake dam at the Leech Lake Association's Fishing Forum in Walker, Minn., April 20.

Leigh Stuemke, forest technician in the La Crescent office, and **Corrine Hodapp**, Black Hawk park ranger, presented nature hikes and water safety programs to 35 fifth graders from Hamilton Elementary School in La Crosse, Wis., April 23.

Project manager **Russ Snyder** participated in a Minnesota Public Radio round table discussion on the Mississippi River in St. Joseph, Minn., April 29.

In celebration of Minnesota Archaeology Week, Corps' archaeologist **Brad Perkl** spoke on the history of Kandiyohi County in Spicer, Minn., May 4.

Newcomers

Work-study student **Michael Haggerty** will assist the geotech/

geology group. He graduated from the University of Minnesota last December with a degree in geological engineering and geology. This fall, he will go back to the university for a master's degree in geological engineering. He currently resides in St. Paul, Minn.

Michael Hlady was recently hired as a construction representative working with the Grand Forks project. He recently separated from the Army, after spending the last 13 years on an active-duty tour with the Army Reserve. His last assignment was as the director of the environmental division at Fort McPherson, Ga. He currently resides in Fisher, Minn.

Gayle Maule was recently hired as an office automation clerk for the physical support branch in Fountain City, Wis. From June 1993–June 1995, she worked as a clerk at Lock and Dam 4. From June 1995–October 1999, she was transferred to the Mississippi River Project Office in La Crescent, Minn. She is back at the Corps after working in the private sector.

(More Bits and Pieces, next page)

2002 summer awards ceremony and picnic

- Thursday, June 20, at Long Lake Regional Park in New Brighton, Minn.;
- Bocce ball, softball or golf tournament, dunk tank;
- "St. Paul Saints" style championship softball game;
- Moon walk, children's activities, pop, cookies, Sno Kones®, popcorn, watermelon;
- Lunch catered;
- Hoagies, Italian lettuce salad, cole slaw, potato salad, garlic bread;
- Tickets on sale: June 3, meal-ticket sales end June 17;
- Adult meal tickets: \$6; Child meal tickets: \$5 (age 10 and under); Non-meal tickets: \$3.

Rothstein named March Employee of the Month



Amy Rothstein (right), resource management, was selected as Employee of the Month for March. DeLisa Kviz (left), resource management, nominated Rothstein for her awareness of the importance of communication and her unselfishness in sign language interpreting and ensuring that people feel included as members of the team.

Photo by Jon Lyman

More Bits and Pieces

Birth

The newest member of the Corps family is **Brady Steven Machajewski**, born May 24 to Paul Machajewski and his wife. Paul is a channel maintenance coordinator in Fountain City, Wis. Brady joins an older brother and sister.

Welcome

Byron Weichel was recently hired as a maintenance officer in the district's logistics office. For the past 10 years, he was the lead maintenance technician and instructor at the Medical Regional Training Site at Fort McCoy, Wis. He currently resides in Sparta,

Wis., and is moving to St. Paul, Minn.

Welcome back

Work-study student **Bryanna Linscheid** is back in the construction-operations division for the summer. She is attending St. Mary's University in Winona, Minn., and majoring in criminal justice and psychiatry. She comes back to the Corps during breaks and summers.

Welcome (back) summer hires

Raymond Curran, Dredge Thompson;
Gary Fellows, Lock and Dam 5A;
John George, Dredge Thompson;

Anthony Hughes, Lock and Dam 4;
Jeff Just, Lock and Dam 3;
Adrian Loewenhagen, Dredge Thompson;
Timothy Koehn, Lock and Dam 10;
Stanley John Marg, Dredge Thompson;
Curtis Marty, Lock and Dam 5;
Thomas Mikrut, Sr., Lock and Dam 7;
James Putz, Lock and Dam 2;
Jimmy Rand, Lock and Dam 7;
Glen Reed, Lock and Dam 8;
Michael Schamaun, Dredge Thompson;
Mark Schultz, Upper St. Anthony Falls;
Bart Spriggle, Dredge Thompson;
John Christopher Stai, Dredge Thompson;
Irene Stearns, Eau Galle Park;
John Trok, Lock and Dam 3.

Farewell

Gerry Enger with the engineering division retired May 3, after 26 years civil service and four years military service.

Obituary



Curtis Anderson, lock and dam operator at Lock and Dam 3, passed away from natural causes at his home April 19.

Wanted: Your news!

PAO seeks information about special events in you life (e.g., births, deaths, marriages, engagements). If you would like to share these items, please contact Shannon Bauer at 651-290-5108 or send an email to: shannon.l.bauer@mvp02.usace.army.mil.