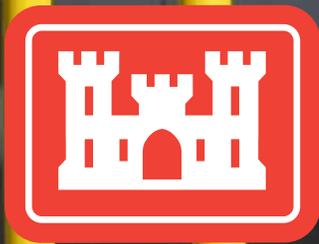


# Crosscurrents

Serving the St. Paul District since 1977  
Summer 2014 | Vol. 40, No. 3

## Summer floods test district projects

Page 7



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District





Mike DeRusha, Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam lockmaster, monitors lock employees as they take the necessary steps to pass flood waters through the lock chamber in Minneapolis June 20.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



*Crosscurrents* is an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1. It is published monthly for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District.

Views and opinions expressed in *Crosscurrents* are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Articles and photography submissions are welcome and must arrive by the 15th day of the publishing month for consideration. Submissions can be mailed or emailed.

Submissions should be in Microsoft Word format for all written copy and photos should be no smaller than a 5 x 7 at 300 dpi. All photographs appearing herein are by the St. Paul District Public Affairs Office unless otherwise accredited.

The mission of *Crosscurrents* is to support the commander's internal information program for the St. Paul District and its stakeholders.

*Crosscurrents* also serves as the commander's primary communication tool for accurately transmitting policies and command philosophy to the St. Paul District community and its customers.

Address all inquiries to:  
Editor, Crosscurrents  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
180 Fifth Street East; Suite 700  
St. Paul, MN 55101-1678  
(651) 290-5202  
cemvp-pa@usace.army.mil

District Commander      Col. Daniel C. Koprowski  
Public Affairs Chief      Shannon Bauer  
Crosscurrents Editor      Patrick Moes  
Contributors              George Stringham  
   Allison Fairbanks

## Crosscurrents Contents

- 3    **Comments from the top**
- 4    **Public views Maple River aqueduct model**
- 5    **District receives marching orders with new law**
- 7    **Historic June floods test district projects**
- 8    **Sediment closes the Mississippi River**
- 9    **Zien receives national recognition**
- 10   **Controversy plagued one of the first locks**
- 12   **Lockmaster training course helps future leaders**
- 13   **Leaning forward with Lean Six Sigma**
- 14   **District staff recognized at summer awards picnic**
- 17   **News & notes**

*Crosscurrents* is read by visual creators like Wendy Medlin, Army Corps of Engineers Information Technology.



*Photo by Patrick Moes*



Facebook



Twitter



YouTube



Flickr

Click on a logo to go to the St. Paul District social media page, where you can like us, watch videos about us or see more photos.

## Comments from the top

**T**eam,  
It's hard to believe that I've commanded the St. Paul District for more than a year now. In that time, we have experienced many challenges, but a similar number of opportunities.

Perhaps the greatest opportunity is the recent passage of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act, or WRRDA. President Barack Obama signed the latest version into law on June 10, seven years since the last WRDA.

The law authorizes new projects for the district, including the Fargo, N.D./Moorhead, Minn., flood diversion project and the Marsh Lake ecosystem restoration project, near Ortonville, Minn. While the authorization provides federal recognition of the projects, we still need to receive appropriations prior to starting the construction. The new law also provides an increased financial

authorization to complete the Roseau, Minn., flood risk management project.

While WRRDA provides flood risk management projects throughout the district, it also requires us to close the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam within a year of the law's passage. We don't have all the details about how and when we will officially close the lock at this point, but we will receive the implementation guidance from Corps Headquarters and respond accordingly. In the meantime, we're developing plans for what we think we'll have to do, so that we're prepared. I want everyone to remember that closing the lock directly impacts some of our teammates. We need to be considerate of their situation as we work through this process. It's important that we communicate throughout this process, and my commitment to our USAF staff is that we will be open and candid with them.

In addition to the new law, we've been busy recently with flooding across much of Minnesota. Historic rainfalls in June caused flooding in several of our river basins. In the Lake of the Woods region, we directly supported the city of Warroad, Minn., by helping them build a temporary levee to fight back the rising lake waters. In other parts of the state, we provided technical assistance to 20 communities impacted by the high water. The assistance included everything from how to build a sandbag levee to how to look for sand boils.

As the water continues to recede to normal levels through much of the district, I want to remind each of you to take some time this summer and relax with your friends and family. Go out and enjoy all that the Upper Midwest has to offer. Whether you like fishing, golfing,



**Col. Daniel C. Koprowski**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District Commander

cooking out or taking a walk around the lake, it's important to take a break every now and then. Regardless of your chosen activities, please enjoy them safely. Every one of you is an integral part of our team, and we need to have everyone available to continue providing the many valuable services to the region and the nation.

## Public offered chance to view Maple River aqueduct model

Story by George Stringham

Nearly 200 people attended the district's Maple River aqueduct open house in Rosemount, Minn., July 24.

The public, flood plain managers, environmental agencies and engineering and conservation groups, learned about the physical model that was built to aid in the design of the Fargo, N.D./Moorhead, Minn., diversion channel.

The 80-foot by 70-foot model was constructed by the University of Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, for the district, the cities of Fargo and Moorhead and contract engineers working on the project. It allows scientists to learn how the water will flow through the aqueduct and how best to design the structure. The aqueduct is one of the components of the planned diversion channel project.

"Working with a physical model has been instrumental in allowing us to calibrate 1D, 2D and 3D computer models and has allowed us to evaluate the proposed design," said Brett Coleman, project manager. "Having the physical model close and easily accessible to the scientists, engineers and the lead district involved is a benefit often overlooked."

Typically, a model like this would

be built at the Corps of Engineers' Engineering, Research and Design Center in Vicksburg, Miss. Having the model in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, where engineers from the University of Minnesota, project sponsors and partnering engineering firms can easily view it and attain the data has helped keep costs down, Coleman said.

"If the model was built and studied down in Mississippi, we would have incurred extra travel expenses," Coleman said. "An additional benefit of having the physical model in the area is being able to allow the local and Fargo-Moorhead public, project sponsors and state and federal agencies see the physical model in operation while learning more about the project."

Data collected to this point has already identified several design changes, including realignment of the spillway and modification of the wing walls upstream and downstream of the aqueduct. The next step will be to make modifications to the physical model to improve the flow. The data collected from this model will also be applied to the Sheyenne River aqueduct, which is also part of the project.



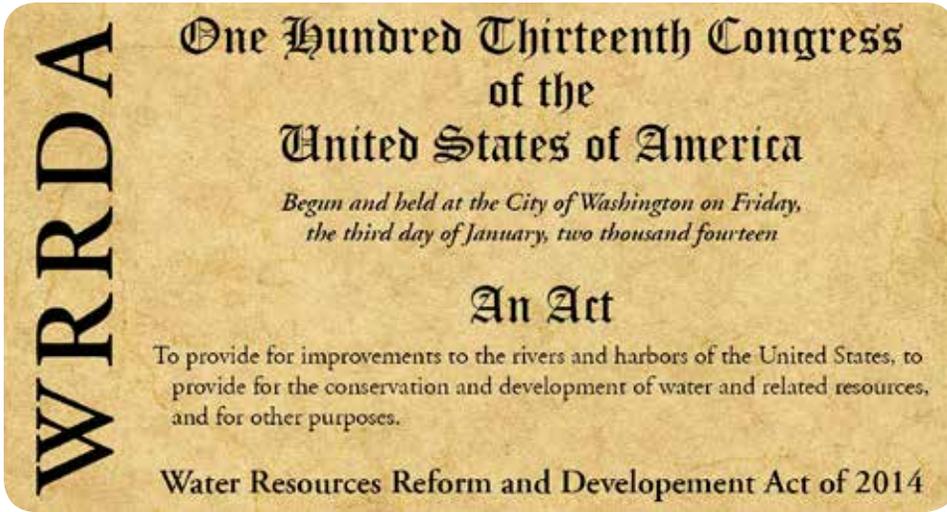
Aaron Buesing, engineering and construction, left, and Jon Sobiech, planning, discuss the Maple River Aqueduct model during an open house at the University of Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory in Rosemount, Minn., July 24.

Photo by George Stringham



Kurt Heckendorf, engineering and construction, left; Randy Devendorf, planning; Jon Sobiech, planning; and Bod Edstrom, project management, discuss the Maple River Aqueduct model with University of Minnesota, St. Anthony Falls Laboratory staff member in Rosemount, Minn., Jan. 13.

Photo by George Stringham



President Barack Obama signed the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 into law June 10. It was the first passage of such legislation since 2007.

*Graphic by Emily Chavolla*



Contractors finish building a temporary emergency levee in Fargo, N.D., April 28, 2013. It was the third time in four years that emergency measures were needed to protect the city from Red River of the North floodwaters.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*

## District receives marching orders with new law

Story by Shannon Bauer

The St. Paul District received several new directives recently as the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, or WRRDA 14, was signed into law June 10. This is the first passage of such an act since 2007, and its purpose is to provide authorization for development of projects by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

### Diverting floodwaters

In this legislation, the Corps received authorization to build a 36-mile diversion channel around the western side of Fargo, N.D., and Moorhead, Minn.

***“This project is one of the top priorities of the Corps’ Mississippi Valley Division,” said Col. Dan Koprowski, district commander.***

The district has been working on the Fargo/Moorhead Metropolitan Area Flood Risk Reduction Project with the local communities since 2008, and the intent of the project is to reduce the flood risk for more than 200,000 people and 70 square miles of infrastructure. “This project is one of the top priorities of the Corps’ Mississippi Valley

Division,” said Col. Dan Koprowski, district commander. “We will continue to work hand-in-hand with our local partners to ensure flood risk reduction is provided in a timely manner.”

In order to build the diversion channel, the district will next need appropriation, or funding, from Congress. In the meantime, the district continues to optimize the design of the project to reduce impacts and costs.

### Restoring Marsh Lake

WRRDA 2014 also authorized a project meant to improve habitat at the Marsh Lake Dam, which is owned and maintained by the district at its Lac qui Parle site. The project involves restoring the Pomme de Terre River to its historic channel, construction a drawdown water control structure, modifying the dam for improved fish passage, adding recreational features and more. “The project is highly cost-effective and will restore the environment at Marsh Lake and make it a much more habitable place for fish, waterfowl and other migratory birds,” said Shahin Khazrajafari, project manager. “The investment in the project will benefit the nation’s environment and natural

resources for generations.”

The district is currently working in partnership with the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District on the design of the project. Like the Fargo/Moorhead project, it will next need appropriation, or funding, to go to the construction phase.

### Last step for Roseau, Minn., diversion

WRRDA 2014 additionally ensured that the district's Roseau, Minn., flood risk reduction project will be built to

completion. The district began building the diversion channel there in 2010 but needed additional authority to finish it. This legislation increased the authorization for this project to \$43.8 million. The project includes building approximately 8.75 miles of earth levees and 4.5 miles of diversion channel, as well as an inlet and outlet structure. This increase in authority and the previously provided funding will allow for the project to be completed by the fall of 2015, said Nathan Wallerstedt, project manager.

### Closing the lock

An additional provision of WRRDA 2014 called for the closing the Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, located in Minneapolis, within one year. This closing is meant to prohibit the travel of Asian carp upstream of this location.

Corps Headquarters is currently evaluating this directive and will provide guidance on how to implement the closing. And although the site will no longer be open to navigation, the district will continue to maintain the

infrastructure there, as it supports hydropower, water supply and occasionally flood control. “We will engage our employees, stake holders and customers to establish a transition plan that minimizes the impacts to personnel and considers the needs of our customers,” said Kevin Baumgard, operations. “Although the effects will be felt directly at both the Upper and Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock 1, the indirect effects may be recognized throughout all of the locks and dams.”



The Roseau, Minn., diversion project consists of a 4.5-mile diversion channel, more than 45 acres of recreation opportunities to include a scenic overlook, two interpretive sites, birding sites, 9 miles of off-road vehicle trails, 7 miles of multi-use trails and more than 4 miles of canoe trails.

*Photo by Shannon Bauer*



The WRRDA 2014 requires the district to close Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam within one year. The district is working with the Corps of Engineers' Headquarters to develop the implementation guidance prior to initiating the closure.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



The passage of WRRDA 2014 authorizes the district to complete the environmental restoration project at Marsh Lake, near Ortonville, Minn.

*Courtesy photo*



Mississippi River floodwaters pass through the lock chamber at Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam in Minneapolis June 20. It was only the sixth time since the lock was opened in 1963 that the chamber was used to reduce the flood risk.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



The Mississippi River floodwaters cover Shepard Road in downtown St. Paul, Minn., June 26.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*

## Historic June floods test district projects

Story by Patrick Moes

**H**eavy rainfall across much of the Upper Midwest in early June caused flooding in many of the district's river basins.

In all, the Crow, Minnesota, Mississippi, Rainy-Lake of the Woods, St. Croix and Red River of the North basins reached various flood levels. The district's readiness operations center, or ROC, activated June 19 to respond to the flooding. The ROC was activated to level 3, or partial activation. This activation allowed the staff to work

extended hours and respond to community requests during non-business hours, said Joe Schroetter, project manager temporarily working as a readiness operations specialist.

One of the community requests came from the city of Warroad, Minn. The ROC staff received the request to help construct a temporary levee to protect the community from waves coming off the Lake of the Woods via Minnesota state emergency management officials. Schroetter said the district sent three

employees to support the construction and, following its completion, the staff worked with city officials to explain how to monitor the levee.

In addition to providing direct support to the city of Warroad, district flood engineers provided technical assistance to 19 additional communities throughout Minnesota. Schroetter said the assistance ranged from helping communities form a comprehensive flood fighting plan, to levee construction and providing reassurance to them on how

to deal with floods. "This flood involved some communities located on lakes in which they have never had to flood fight before," he said. "Since the preparation is different, it was important to help them understand how to prepare and what to look for when monitoring the flood."

Many cities have procedures to deal with flooding, but he said it's good to reach out to the communities and help them think about what needs to be done to fight floods. In all, 54 employees responded to the June floods.



The district's Dredge Goetz crew perform emergency dredging operations in the Mississippi River near Wabasha, Minn., July 30.

Photo by George Stringham

## Sediment closes the Mississippi River emergency dredging needed to reopen the navigation channel

Story by Patrick Moes

Following historic flooding across much of the Upper Midwest earlier this summer, sediment within the Mississippi River settled within the navigation channel once the high water receded to normal levels.

The sediment created challenges for the district's channels and harbors section based in Fountain City, Wis., as areas within Pool 4, from Wabasha, Minn., to Alma, Wis., and areas near Winona, Minn., in Pool 6, were too shallow to allow safe passage of commercial navigation. At the request of the district, the U.S. Coast Guard closed the 9-foot navigation channel July 19 near Wabasha and July 23 near Winona, said Dan Cottrell, operations.

The district began emergency dredging operations to reopen the channel. They dredged temporary 200-foot wide pilot channels in both Pool 4 and Pool 6. The pilot channels allowed the Coast Guard to officially reopen the 9-foot navigation channel to commercial traffic. The normal authorized channel width is 300 feet.

In all, the Corps had two government dredging operations, the hydraulic Dredge Goetz and a mechanical dredging crew, along with two contract

mechanical dredging operations, working to reopen the channel to a safe depth, which happened Aug. 7. Dredging began July 16 when the water elevations were low enough to begin and, collectively, the dredges removed more than 290,000 cubic yards of dredged material from the river. This is nearly 30 percent of the average material removed during an entire season.

In addition to four dredges, the Corps used two channel survey boats to monitor the river channel depth. The surveyors continue looking for shallow areas within the channel. Together with the dredges, the district expects to continue maintenance dredging well into the fall.

At the peak of the channel closure, there were at least 17 tow boats impacted by the closure. These vessels were shipping more than 150 barges – 120 loaded barges and 32 empty barges.

Throughout the nearly two weeks that the channel was closed, Steve Tapp, operations, said he and his staff were in constant communication with both the navigation industry officials and the Coast Guard.



The St. Paul District has dredged nearly 300,000 cubic yards of material, or enough to fill a line of 10-cubic-yard dump trucks from Minneapolis to La Crosse, Wis.

Graphic by Wendy Medlin



## Zien receives national recognition

Story by Allison Fairbanks

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Headquarters in Washington, D.C., recently announced its selection of Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District employee and Mendota Heights, Minn., resident Terry Zien as one of the two recipients of the 2013 Silver Jackets Coordinator of the Year Award.

Zien received this top honor for demonstrating passion, desire and commitment with a coordinated, collaborative approach when working with multiple agencies to manage and reduce flood risks. In the past eight years, Zien has served as the St. Paul District Silver Jackets Coordinator for Minnesota and Wisconsin and as a co-lead for North Dakota. Zien has also managed the Flood Plain Management Services and Planning Assistance to States programs at the St. Paul District. Silver Jackets is a program that provides an opportunity to consistently bring together multiple states, federal,

tribal and local agencies to learn from one another in the area of flood risk management and apply this knowledge to reduce risk.

"Mr. Zien's exemplary professionalism, personal commitment to reducing risks and his 'above-and-beyond the

***"Mr. Zien's exemplary professionalism, personal commitment to reducing risks and his 'above-and-beyond the call' work ethic and outstanding interpersonal skills have resulted in enhanced cooperation and collaboration between the Corps and the many federal, state and local units of government having flood risk management roles and responsibilities,"***

**-Chris Erickson, project management**

call' work ethic and outstanding interpersonal skills have resulted in enhanced cooperation and collaboration between the Corps and the many federal, state and local units of government having flood risk management roles and responsibilities," said Chris Erickson, Zien's supervisor. "Zien's compassion and unwavering commitment to advancing flood risk management makes him worthy of this recognition."

Zien will receive his award at the 2014 Flood Risk Management Workshop to be held this month in Southbridge, Mass.



Terry Zien, project management, discusses flood risks prior to the spring snowmelt during a meeting with federal, state and local officials in St. Paul, Minn., Feb. 16, 2011.

Photo by Patrick Moes



Graphic by Wendy Medlin

## Controversy plagued one of the first locks on the Mississippi River

Story by Kevin Bokay

Listed as one of the “controversies” in Raymond Merritt’s book “Creativity, Conflict & Controversy: A History of the St. Paul District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,” the Meeker Dam project continues to provide intrigue.

Meeker Lock and Dam, also known then as Lock and Dam 2 or Government Dam, and Lock and Dam 1 were the creative solution to solve the navigation conflict between the Minnesota cities of St. Anthony, Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Proposed by territorial judge Bradley Meeker and some business associates from Minneapolis as early as 1857, the Meeker Lock and Dam project stalled in territorial and state legislatures until it reached the U.S. Congress – where approval was granted in 1894. Several issues caused the project’s delay to include the Civil War, the Panic of 1857, land acquisitions and changes in the make-up of the businessmen investors.

When Congress approved the plan to bring navigation to Minneapolis and St. Anthony in 1894, they said a second dam, location to-be-decided, was needed, too. This “undecided” dam would ultimately become Lock and Dam 1 and is located downstream of Meeker Dam near the mouth of Minnehaha Creek, where it still operates today.

Meeker Dam was less fortunate. The dam was destroyed in 1912 just 5 years after it was put into use. The top 5 feet of the lock walls were blown up but can still be seen during low water periods.

### Challenges and controversies

The project had many controversies including the lock and dam’s conception, which was seen by some as a land-grab by a territorial judge. Bradley Meeker of Kentucky was one of three supreme court territorial judges appointed in 1849 by President Zachary Taylor as a result of a recommendation from his uncle during a time when the spoils system was accepted practice. As with many territorial judges, Meeker had time for other interests – such as real estate speculation. The judge owned several hundred acres of land in Ramsey County, some of it bordering the Mississippi River, including an island, which was marked for development of the dam. Meeker and his associates stood to gain significantly from the disposition of these lands.

Titus Welles, a lumberman and businessman of the era, said in his memoirs that the land deal was “the attempt of a few selfish plunderers to seize upon 200,000 acres of the best



Bradley Meeker was a Minnesota territorial judge and real estate speculator in the 19th Century.

pine lands of the state and hold them for speculation ...”

The dam was also opposed by lumbermen who wanted continued passage of their logs down the river and St. Paul interests who wanted to hold on to overland shipping businesses and the title “head of navigation” for the Upper Mississippi.

Despite these project opponents, there were groups that continued looking to

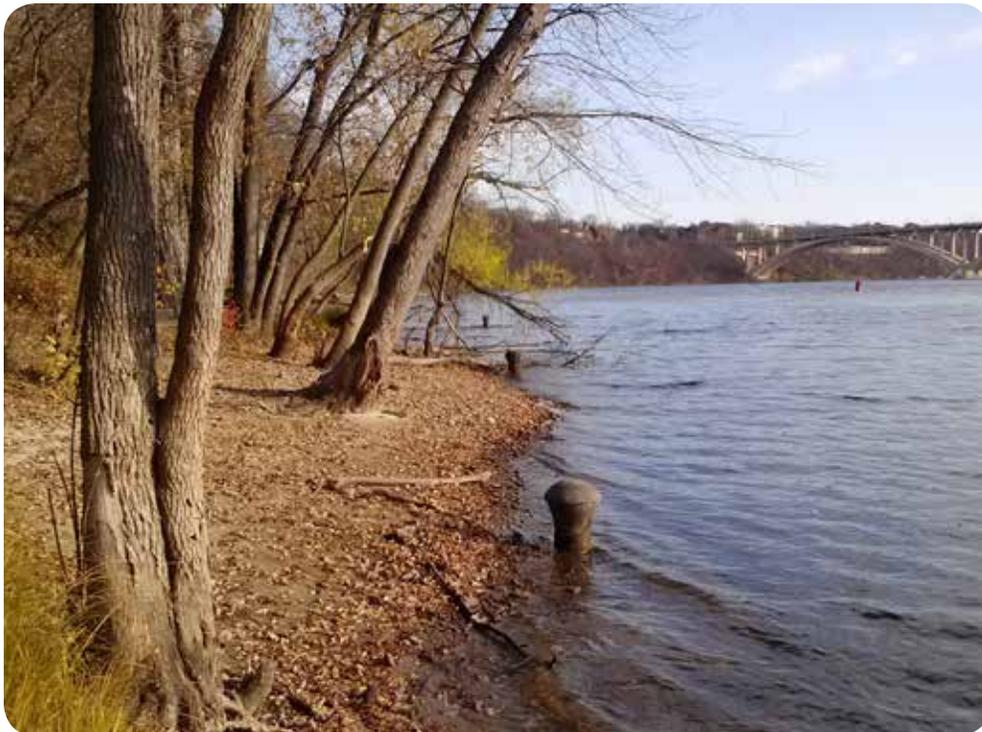
improve the river for navigation. Groups employed techniques such as snagging and removing sandbars and boulders. In 1866, Gouverneur K. Warren, St. Paul District’s first district engineer, employed Francis Cook, a civil engineer, who worked for the milling interests in Minneapolis to design a lock and dam at Meeker Island. In a subsequent report to Congress, Warren concluded that the only way to achieve navigation to the

cities of St. Anthony and Minneapolis was by means of a lock and dam at Meeker Island.

By the 1890s, when work began on the Meeker project, Judge Meeker was already deceased, but the work continued during a period of change in the nation’s planning priorities to include exploring opportunities for hydroelectric power.

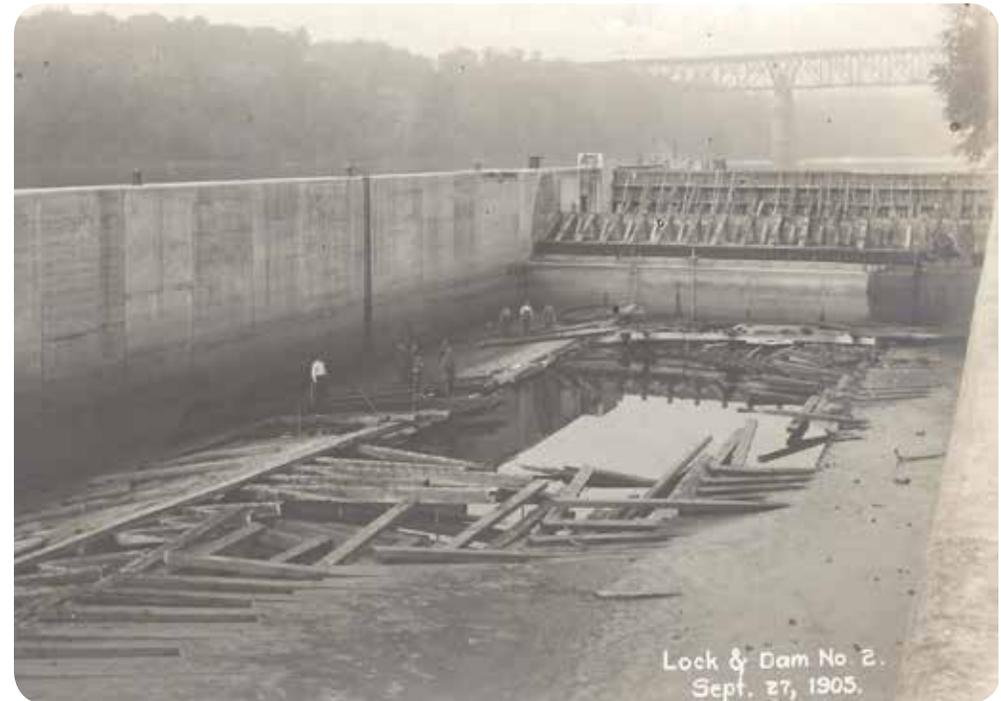
Although the Meeker Dam was

evaluated for its hydroelectric potential, it was considered insignificant. Lock and Dam 1, under consideration near the mouth of Minnehaha, was deemed a better candidate for hydropower. These changes ultimately led to a more comprehensive look at navigation on the Upper Mississippi and the Meeker Dam was no longer considered necessary to get the steamboats to St. Anthony and Minneapolis.



Remnants of the Meeker Lock and Dam, also known then as Lock and Dam 2, in Minneapolis can be seen during times when the Mississippi River water level is low.

*Photo by Kevin Bokay*



Lock & Dam No. 2.  
Sept. 27, 1905.

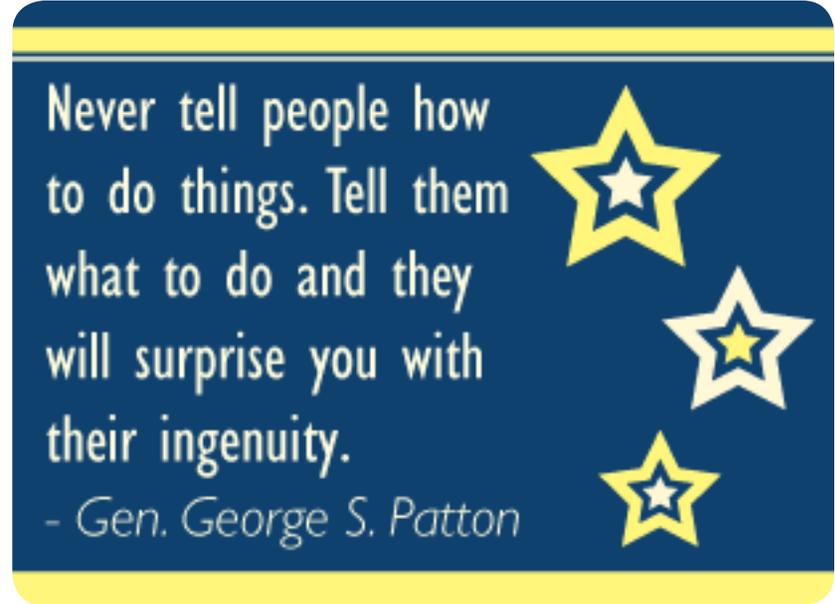
Construction workers build the Meeker Lock and Dam, also known then as Lock and Dam 2, in Minneapolis in 1905. The lock would later be destroyed in 1912, a mere five years after it was put into use on the Upper Mississippi River.

*Archived photo*



Farley Hasse, engineering and construction, left; Judith Denzer, operations; and John Perry, operations, discuss how water management monitors and adjusts the Mississippi River pools from Minneapolis to Guttenberg, Iowa.

*Photo by George Stringham*



*Graphic by Wendy Medlin*

## Lockmaster training course helps future leaders learn

Story by George Stringham

After sitting idle for five years, the district recently restarted the lockmaster development program.

The two participants of this year's program are Judith Denzer, lock operator at Lock and Dam 5 in Minnesota City, Minn., and John Perry, lock operator at Lock and Dam 9 in Lynxville, Wis.

"This program was first started in 1997 when the district had the foresight to see that there were going to be a

large number of lockmasters retiring in the not too distant future," said Darrel Oldenburg, Lock and Dam 9 lockmaster and champion of the lockmaster development program.

The program is four to five months long and structured similar to other leadership development programs offered to employees within the Corps of Engineers. Participants have the opportunity to do tasks and perform duties outside of the scope of their normal job. They spend time in the

district office, learn different programs and processes and find out what resources are available, both at the district office and also within the entire Corps of Engineers organization.

"You often know what's going on with a couple other locks near yours, but when you're not closely tethered to the district office, it can be difficult to grasp the big picture," Oldenburg said. "When you're out in the field, it's easy to forget that there's more to what's going on at your lock."

Oldenburg said the program was restarted because half of the district's lockmasters will be retirement eligible in the next four to five years. The program also gives lock operators and equipment repair staff the chance to see if it's right for them. They know what it's like from the subordinate's side, but they get to see and experience it from the supervisor side, he added.

"In the end, it's about setting our folks and the district up for success," Oldenburg said.

# Leaning forward with Lean Six Sigma

Story by Allison Fairbanks

For decades, numerous methodologies have been created for organizations to improve the quality, speed and efficiency of the organization while better serving its customers.

The Department of Defense adopted many of these methods to improve processes within the military. Most recently, the Army adopted the Lean Six Sigma model, which is based on Michael George's book "Lean Six Sigma: Combining Six Sigma with Lean Speed." This managerial approach combines the "lean" and "six sigma" tools to improve the performance, while also eliminating non-value added steps, said Kevin Bokay, district librarian and Lean Six Sigma green belt candidate.

The Lean Six Sigma tools are applied within a performance improvement model known as DMAIC, which stands for define, measure, analyze, improve and control. Bokay said the model managers include individuals that train in a belt-based system. He said the Lean Six Sigma managers are first designated as white belts and then progress to

white belts, green belts and finally black belts.

There are certain skill sets that each Lean Six Sigma manager will have mastered after completing their specific belt level training, said Bokay. With the DMAIC model, all belt levels should be able to:

- define the goals of the improvement activity;
- measure the existing process and analyze the process to identify ways to eliminate the gap between the current performance and the desired goal; and
- improve the process while monitoring the task for future improvements.

"Lean Six Sigma gives the district specific tools and a methodology to examine processes for efficiency," said Bokay. "It identifies resource-saving improved methods of service delivery and bases decisions on measurable data. Sometimes just having a small group of subject matter experts and others look closely at a process can reveal obvious and not-so-obvious fixes that can be implemented immediately."



Graphic by Wendy Medlin



Graphic by Wendy Medlin



## District holds summer awards picnic at Eau Galle Recreation Area

The summer award recipients are:

### 10 year anniversary

James Adank, operations  
Tonya Baker, programs  
Samuel Banicki, operations  
Nicholas Domer, regulatory  
Steven Grote, operations  
Eric Hanson, regulatory  
Joseph Heffner, operations  
Molly Hunt, counsel  
David Johnson, operations  
Anthony McCarthy, operations  
Mike Neumann, operations  
William Nissalke Jr., operations  
Eric Norton, regulatory  
Jeff Olson, regulatory  
James Reinarts, operations  
Justin Rose, contracting  
Randy Sickles, operations  
Duane Skjeie, operations  
Robert Slininger, engineering and construction  
Steven Sulfow, operations  
Aaron Tappendorf, operations  
Michael Tollfson, operations  
Nathan Van Loon, operations

### 15 year anniversary

Kevin Andersen, programs  
Peter Blank, operations  
Connie Brantner, operations  
Douglas Bruner, regulatory  
Gwen Davis, small business  
Russell Fischer, engineering and construction  
Ricky Hager, operations



(Top left) Andrew Tandberg, operations, center, carries a treasure chest that the kids discovered during a scavenger hunt at the district's summer picnic July 11 at the Eau Galle Recreation Area in Spring Valley, Wis. (Right) Bobber the Water Safety Dog judges the coloring contest. (Left) Members of the support staff offices celebrate winning the tug-of-war competition for the second consecutive year.





Rick Hauck, engineering and construction  
 Stephen Klopp, operations  
 Roy Lawson, engineering and construction  
 Adrian Loewenhagen, operations  
 David Potter, planning  
 George Stringham, public affairs  
 Amy Thomas, operations  
 Todd Vesperman, regulatory  
 Shua Xiong, programs

### 20 year anniversary

Christopher Botz, operations  
 Aaron Buesing, engineering and construction  
 Daniel Cottrell, operations  
 David Diamond, operations  
 Terry Fluekiger, operations  
 Lynnette Gandl, operations  
 Kerrie Hauser, regulatory  
 Phyllis Hedberg, operations  
 Paul Manders, operations  
 Bill Sande, regulatory  
 Rebecca Seal-Soileau, engineering and construction

### 25 year anniversary

Scott Baker, engineering and construction  
 Douglas Blexrud, operations  
 Kevin Bokay, library  
 Mark Brant, operations  
 Kris Fairbanks, readiness operations center  
 Jay Grimsled, operations  
 Joseph Gurin, operations  
 Daniel Hentges, operations  
 Thomas Hingsberger, regulatory  
 Corrine Hodapp, operations  
 Eric Johnson, engineering and construction  
 Diane Karnish, planning  
 Robert Kohner, operations  
 Dennis Kupietz, operations  
 Mary Kay Larson, operations  
 Lisa Lund, engineering and construction



(Top left) Capt. Chris Raisl, readiness operations center, and his family make the best of an early morning rainstorm. (Top right) Tom Lytle's daughter, Everleigh, discovers the bubble machine. (Bottom left) Bradley LaBadie, operations, posts the coloring projects for Bobber's review. (Below) Rick and Kari Hauck, both in engineering and construction, enjoy the picnic with their son, Eli. (Bottom right) Sam Smith, engineering and construction, takes aim at the bean bag toss.





Virginia Regorrah, contracting  
Phillip Sauser, engineering and construction  
Kris Zeller, operations

### 30 year anniversary

Nanette Bischoff, project management  
Charlene Carmack, planning  
Todd Ennis, operations  
Robert Gross, operations  
Joseph Jordan, planning  
David Kollars, engineering and construction  
Deborah Lawrence, contracting  
Joseph Mose, project management  
Gene Nesler, operations  
Scott Ressie, operations

### 35 year anniversary

Timothy George, planning  
Scott Jutila, engineering and construction  
Jeff Kleinert, operations  
Mark Koenig, readiness operations center  
Marc Krumholz, operations  
Dawn Linder, contracting  
Jeff McGrath, planning  
Bonnie Montgomery, project management  
Dan Schmidt, operations  
Neil Schwanz, engineering and construction

### 40 year anniversary

Marvin Hrdlicka, engineering and construction



(Top left) Mike Dahlquist, engineering and construction, prepares for a swim in cold water as he sits on the seat at the dunk tank. (Top right) Tom Crump, planning, and Joe Schroetter, project management, support their favorite baseball teams. (Below) District staff, family and friends gather for a family photo.





## Editor's Note

Do you have news you want to share with the district? Send your announcements of births, weddings, graduations, etc., to **Crosscurrents**.  
cemvp-pa@usace.army.mil.

## Retirees

**Mary Deflorian**, lock and dam assistant, operations, Dresbach, Minn.  
**Jeff Kleinert**, park manager, operations, Grand Rapids, Minn.  
**Scott Ressie**, leverman, operations, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Russ Snyder**, landscape architect, project management, district office

## Regulatory field office moves

The Two Harbors field office has relocated to Duluth, Minn. The staff are now co-located with the Detroit District civil works office. The new address is:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Duluth Regulatory Office 600 South Lake Avenue, Suite 211 Duluth, MN 55802
--

## Save the date

Reservations are now being accepted through Sept. 5. The luncheon is Sept. 11 at the Lost Spur Banquet and Conference Center in Eagan, Minn. For more information, please contact Peggy Peterson at (651) 486-0390 or Jim Kursu at (651) 224-0053.

## Congratulations

- Congratulations **Greg Kohler**, planning, for completing his Project Management Professional, or PMP, certification.
- Congratulations **Lisa Lund**, operations, for completing the Grandma's Marathon, in Duluth, Minn. She completed the race in 4 hours, 8 minutes.
- Congratulations **Karl Berg**, engineering and construction, and his wife, **Natalie**, on the birth of their son, **Everett Karl Berg**, July 4, 2014. He was 9 lbs., 0 ozs.
- Congratulations **Neil Schwanz**, engineering and construction, on his selection as the chief of the newly formed geotechnical and geology branch.
- Congratulations engineering and construction employees **Elizabeth Killian, Jason Foss and Brett Palmberg**, for earning their professional engineer license.
- Congratulations **Neil Schwanz**, engineering and construction, on his selection as the new geotechnical engineer supervisor.
- Congratulations **Kurt Schroeder**, operations, and his wife, **Nicole**, on the birth of their daughter, **Emmilyn**.
- Congratulations **Molly Hunt**, office of counsel, and her husband, **Tim**, on the birth of their daughter, **Anna Molly Hunt**, Feb. 14. She was 9 lbs., 5 ozs., and 20.5 inches.
- Congratulations **Aaron Snyder**, project management, and his wife, **Azure**, on the birth of their daughter, **Violet Marie Snyder**, Aug. 24. She was 7 lbs., 4 ozs., and 20 inches.



## Seasonal/New hires

- Kelly Ammerman**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 2, Hastings, Minn.
- Ralph Augustin**, rehired annuitant, regulatory, district office
- Ernesto Barahona**, cartographic technician, engineering and construction, district office
- Kipp Baures**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.
- Jeffery Becker**, physical security specialist, security, district office
- John Brezinka**, student trainee, operations, Big Sandy Lake, McGregor, Minn.
- Daniel Burger**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 9, Lynxville, Wis.
- Carrie Carrigan**, student trainee, operations, Cross Lake Recreation Area, Crosslake, Minn.
- Jason Charette**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.



**Jeffrey Cook**, park ranger, operations, Pokegama Recreation Area, Grand Rapids, Minn.

**Mitchell Czech**, student trainee, operations, Blackhawk Park, DeSoto, Wis.

**Brady Dehnke**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.

**Forest Eidbo**, student trainee, operations, Leech Lake, Federal Dam, Minn.

**Jeff Ferguson**, student trainee, operations, Lock and Dam 1, Minneapolis.

**Blake Giles**, student trainee, operations, Big Sandy Lake, McGregor, Minn.

**Steven Glasscock**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 5A, Fountain City, Wis.

**Abby Hansen**, human resources specialist, human resources, district office

**Channing Helgeson**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.

**Jacob Holle**, student trainee, operations, Cross Lake Recreation Area, Crosslake, Minn.

**Dawn Johnson**, student trainee, engineering and construction, district office

**Sean Kelly**, student trainee, operations, Gull Lake Recreation Area, Brainerd, Minn.

**Jacob Keranen**, student trainee, operations, , Cross Lake Recreation Area, Crosslake, Minn.

**David Keune**, student trainee, operations, Lock and dam 5, Minnesota City, Minn.

**Courtney Kinnett**, student trainee, operations, Lake Ashtabula, Valley City, N.D.

**Sara Konish**, human resources specialist, human resources, district office

**Nicholas Kramer**, student trainee, operations, Eau Galle Recreation Area, Spring Valley, Wis.

**Gregory Larson**, rehired annuitant, regulatory, district office

**Elizabeth Lien**, student trainee, engineering and construction, district office

**Tyson Martin**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 10, Guttenberg, Iowa.

**Travis Mcelmury**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 4, Alma, Wis.

**Matthew Messina**, student trainee, engineering and construction, district office

**Lorie Miller-Zuehlke-Burns**, student trainee, operations, Big Sandy Lake, McGregor, Minn.

**Paul Morken**, civil engineer, engineering and construction, district office

**Cortney Mundth**, student trainee, operations, Eau Galle Recreation Area, Spring Valley, Wis.

**Kevin Ressie**, rehired annuitant, operations, Fountain City, Wis.

**Matthew Rolbiecki**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.

**Dale Rud**, deckhand, operations, Fountain City, Wis.

**Kendra Schiell**, student trainee, engineering and construction, district office

**Timothy Schwarz**, student trainee, operations, Leech Lake, Federal Dam, Minn.

**Jacob Sours**, student trainee, operations, Lake Ashtabula, Valley City, N.D.

**Bryan Sprang**, student trainee, engineering and construction, district office

**Ryan Strand**, student trainee, operations, La Crescent, Minn.

**Steven Sulflow**, maintenance worker, operations, Watson, Minn.

**Benjamin Tubbs**, lock and dam operator, operations, Lock and Dam 10, Guttenberg, Iowa.

**Theresa Vaagen**, construction support assistant, engineering and construction, Fargo, N.D.

**Derek Willman**, student trainee, operations, Blackhawk Park, DeSoto, Wis.

**Jacob Zanon**, survey technician, operations, Leech Lake, Federal Dam, Minn.

## New employees take the oath of office



Col. Dan Koprowski, right, district commander, administers the oath of office to seven of the district's newest employees. The new employees from the left are Melanie Nelson, regulatory; Tyree Cobb, human resources; Bryan Sprang, engineering and construction; Kendra Schiell, engineering and construction; Elizabeth Lien, engineering and construction; Alex Webb, counsel, and Matthew Messina, engineering and construction.

*Photo by Wendy Medlin*