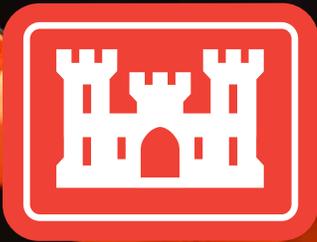


# Crosscurrents

Serving the St. Paul District  
Fall 2015 | Vol. 41, No. 4



**Project  
restores,  
builds  
islands for  
habitat**



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

Resident engineer Scott Baker, left, visits the Harper's Slough project Aug. 11. The project, located within the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, was planned and designed under the authority of the Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program.

*Photo by George Stringham*



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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
<i>Crosscurrents</i> Editor	Patrick Moes
Contributors	George Stringham Ben Watson

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## Comments from the top

Team,

We made it through another fiscal year! I want to thank each of you for your dedication and professionalism, especially considering the recent fiscal uncertainty. Whether in terms of our charging practices, budget execution or day-to-day missions, we finished the year strong. Well done everyone!

Judy DesHarnais, the deputy for project management; Brett Coleman, the executive assistant, and I recently went to Washington, D.C., to brief the district's congressional delegations on our projects. I want to share that we repeatedly heard good things from them in reference to our projects and our relationships with our partners. This tells me that each of you is doing what needs to be done to support the region. Further, it demonstrates the fact that we, as a district, continue looking for ways to improve the environment, reduce flood risks and provide recreation opportunities

throughout the Upper Midwest.

That said, I wanted to take a few minutes to address something that is really important to me and the Army, namely: The Army Values. Over the course of the next several editorials, I plan to address each value individually and discuss its importance in making our district and the Army a great place to work.

The Army Values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, integrity and Personal Courage embody all that we do and should serve as our moral compass to become better today than we were yesterday. These values should signify what it means to be a Soldier or an Army Civilian. Moreover, the Army values articulate what the American people expect of us as public servants.

The first value I want to talk about is – loyalty. I think this value is extremely poignant considering recent budget cuts and the fiscal

uncertainty that we've seen the past few years. Despite decreased funding, continuing resolutions and temporary furloughs, you all have demonstrated loyalty by continuing to serve the Corps and the nation as a public servant. This says a lot about your character and willingness to place the needs of the district, the Army and the Nation above your own. While it might be tempting to seek greener pastures, all of you have stayed the course. Each of you took an oath when you came to work for the government, and your continued service is testimony to your loyalty.

On the topic of loyalty, I want to remind all of us about the Army Civilian Corps Creed:

I am an Army Civilian – a member of the Army Team. I am dedicated to our Army, our Soldiers and Civilians.

I will always support the mission. I provide stability and continuity during war and peace. I support and defend



**Col. Daniel C. Koprowski**  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Paul District Commander

the Constitution of the United States, and consider it an honor to serve our Nation and our Army.

I Live the Army values of:

**Loyalty**  
**Duty**  
**Respect**  
**Selfless Service**  
**Honor**  
**Integrity and**  
**Personal Courage**

Thanks for your continued loyalty to each other, to our customers and our mission and to our country.



Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, left, and Maj. Gen. Michael Wehr, Mississippi Valley Division commander, listen to St. Paul District leadership development program students during a meeting at the district's headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, Sept. 1.

*Photo by George Stringham*



Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, talks about the challenges and opportunities the Corps of Engineers faces in the future during a town hall at the district's headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, Sept. 1.

*Photo by Emily Chavolla*

## Bostick visits the St. Paul District

Story by Shannon Bauer

**T**he Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick made a whirlwind visit to the St. Paul District, Sept. 1-2. He spent the first day of his visit at the district's headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, and the second day in Fargo, North Dakota, meeting with a few of the district's stakeholders.

Bostick's itinerary in St. Paul included receiving briefings on district activities,

participating in a town hall session and meeting with district staff in the leadership development and emerging leader program. In Fargo, he received a tour of part of the Fargo/Moorhead project area and met with elected officials and city leaders from both communities, as well as leaders from Minot, North Dakota.

Maj. Gen. Michael Wehr, Mississippi Valley Division commander, and his staff also participated in the visit.

Capt. Dwight Howell, project management and quality manager, served as the district's team lead for planning the commanding general's visit. He said the team began preparing for the visit a few months prior and covered everything from travel to talking points. He said, "I think the visit was well executed, and I cannot express enough thanks to the team that brought it all together.

"I believe Lt. Gen. Bostick left

the district with an appreciation for the challenges we face and the opportunities that presents itself for the future. We expanded his knowledge on several projects that provides him with the requisite knowledge and skills to advocate on our behalf," he continued. "Most importantly, Lt. Gen. Bostick left knowing the passion we have at [the St. Paul District] and the importance of our workforce, our most critical resource."



Members of the district's leadership and the leadership development program participants had the opportunity to meet with Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, during his visit Sept. 1.

*Photo by Shannon Bauer*



Senior Corps of Engineers leaders met with members of the North Dakota and Minnesota congressional delegations at a Diversion Authority meeting in Fargo, North Dakota, Sept. 2.

*Photo by Shannon Bauer*



Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, right, and Col. Dan Koprowski, St. Paul District commander, listen to St. Paul District leadership development program students during a meeting at the district's headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, Sept. 1.

*Photo by George Stringham*

## District attorney recognized for public service

Story by Patrick Moes

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters recently selected St. Paul District employee and Markesan, Wisconsin, native, Steve Adamski as the recipient of its 2015 Bert P. Pettinato Pride in Public Service Award.

The award is named after Bert P. Pettinato who served the nation and the Corps with distinction over his long career. It is presented annually to a member of the Corps of Engineers legal services community who has demonstrated the ideals of “pride in public service” through leadership, concern for people and a personal belief that public service is both a noble calling and a public trust.

“Steve was recognized for his 30 years of public service that have been marked by a huge array of unique challenges. He is, without a doubt, one of the finest public servants working within the Corps and is nationally recognized for his pride in being a public servant and his willingness to share his wealth of knowledge,” stated G. Rogers Sloan, division counsel for

the Mississippi Valley Division, of which the St. Paul District is assigned. “Steve not only met every challenge thrown at him, but he has made the St. Paul District’s processes for dealing with future challenges immeasurably better.”

Adamski has worked in the St. Paul District’s office of counsel since July of 1985 and is currently serving as the district’s deputy district counsel. He earned his jurist doctorate in 1984 from the Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul, Minnesota. He is a member of the Minnesota Bar and has received numerous awards and recognitions during his federal career to include the Corps’ 1994

Joseph W. Kimball award for highest potential for legal achievement; the 2006 Ramon J. Powell award for legal scholarship; the U.S. Department of Justice’s Certificate of Commendation for support of environmental litigation in support of the Corps’ Clean Water Act program; and the Corps’ 2011 George Wolfe Koonce award for legal achievement and professional performance, the Corps’ Outstanding Attorney of the Year award.

**“Steve was recognized for his 30 years of public service that have been marked by a huge array of unique challenges.”**

**-Joe Willging,  
district counsel**



Steve Adamski, left, St. Paul District deputy district counsel receives a letter of congratulations from Maj. Gen. Michael Wehr, Mississippi Valley Division commander, Sept. 1. Adamski was selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2015 Bert P. Pettinato Pride in Public Service Award recipient earlier this year.

*Photo by Emily Chavolla*



Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick, Chief of Engineers and Commanding General, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, left, presents St. Paul District Resident Engineer Sheldon Edd with the Mississippi Valley Division Construction Management Excellence Award during a town hall at the district's headquarters in St. Paul, Minnesota, Sept. 1.

*Photo by Emily Chavolla*

## Edd recognized for construction expertise, receives division/Corps awards

Story by Shannon Bauer

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Headquarters and the Mississippi Valley Division, selected St. Paul District employee and Rochester, Minnesota, resident Sheldon Edd as its Construction Management Excellence Award recipient.

The annual awards recognize construction personnel exhibiting excellence in construction management and contract administration activities. An employee from each of the division's six districts competed for the award. The division winners then

competed at the Corps of Engineers' Headquarters for the national award.

"Sheldon [Edd] was recognized for his efforts in completing the St. Croix Falls [Wisconsin] Waste Water Treatment Facility, volunteering to serve as the construction branch quality assurance lead until the position was filled, obtaining a

contracting officer's warrant and being selected as a Corps of Engineers course instructor," said Tom Johnson, St. Paul District Eastern Area Office chief. "Sheldon is well respected in the entire organization and his commitment to construction management excellence is exemplary."

**"Sheldon [Edd] was recognized for his efforts in completing the St. Croix Falls [Wisconsin] Waste Water Treatment Facility."**

**-Tom Johnson, Eastern Area Office chief**

Edd serves as a resident engineer in the district's Eastern Area Office in Winona, Minnesota. In this position, he is responsible for the administration of construction contracts throughout the district's eastern geographic responsibility. The contracts vary and include electrical

rehabilitation, dredging, sanitary sewer treatment facilities, levee construction and repair, lock construction and repair, underground utilities, street construction and more. He is a civil engineer and registered Professional Engineer in Minnesota, and has worked for the Corps of Engineers for 25 years.

## Sandy Visitor Center receives a facelift

Story by Shannon Bauer

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District's Sandy Lake Visitor's Center has a new look.

The district's history committee recently completed a renovation there that included the tearing down of older displays, the research and design of new panels and the building and installation of new display cases and

panels. The new look was unveiled at a ribbon cutting ceremony Aug. 17.

The Sandy visitor's center is the old lock house, built in 1914. It was converted into a visitor center back in the 1970s. This was the first remodel of the visitor's center since its opening.

Tamryn Johnson, Sandy Lake park manager, said the project was an

effort to highlight historical aspects of the Big Sandy Lake area, as well as explain why the Corps of Engineers is there, in an accessible and interesting manner for visitors.

"The previous displays in the visitor's center featured a fantastic artifact collection but did not explain much about those artifacts or why they were showcased," she said. "The

new displays provide visitors with a timeframe and background from the first inhabitants hunting mammoths up to present day Corps operations.

"Big Sandy Lake has an old and fascinating history," she continued. "We hope that our efforts will be small but mighty in impact, providing visitors from the area and afar with a sense of place here at the Sandy Lake Dam."



The updated displays at the Sandy Lake visitor center highlight the history and archaeology of the region

*Photo by Emily Chavolla*



Sandy Skinaway, Sandy Lake Tribe chairwoman, left, Col. Dan Koprowski, St. Paul District commander, and Tammy Johnson, Sandy Lake Park manager, conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony, officially rededicating the Sandy Lake visitor center Aug. 17. The center, a former lock house located next to the dam, has artifacts and information about the region's history. Corps staff spent the past year updating the displays and artifacts to better communicate the centuries of history that has occurred around the site.

*Photo by Emily Chavolla*



From left, state Rep. Dan Fabian, U.S. Rep. Collin Peterson, U.S. Sen. Al Franken, St. Paul District Commander Col. Dan Koprowski, Roseau, Minn., Mayor Jeffrey Peolowski, state Sen. LeRoy Stumpf, Mark Karl of Polaris Industries, and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources representative Kent Lokkesmoe, dedicated the Roseau Flood Risk Management project Aug. 18.

*Photo by Shannon Bauer*

## Mission complete: District cuts the ribbon at the Roseau, Minnesota, project

Story by Shannon Bauer

**T**he U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, celebrated the completion of its Roseau, Minnesota, Flood Damage Reduction Project with a ribbon cutting ceremony in Roseau, Aug. 18.

The project provides flood risk reduction for the more than 2,800 residents and the infrastructure of Roseau. It included the building of

a 4.5 mile diversion channel and 45 recreational areas of recreation opportunities to include the installation of a scenic overlook, two birding sites, 9 miles of off-road vehicle trails, an ATV challenge course and 7 miles of multi-use trails and a trailhead with parking and picnic area.

The St. Paul District began working with Roseau in 2002, when it responded

to record flooding in this community. Intense rainfall over the river basin dumped an extraordinary amount of water into the area. This water quickly collected and drained into the Roseau River, overtopping the levee system and flooding most of the city.

“Many of you remember the June 2002 intense rainfall event over the river basin that dumped an

extraordinary amount of water into the area,” said Col. Dan Koprowski, St. Paul District commander, at the ribbon cutting ceremony. “Since the 2002 flood, we’ve worked side-by-side with you to reduce the risk of flooding. And, we are here today to celebrate a successful partnership with the city that has resulted in a safer place to live and work.”



Lt. Col. Christian Thompson, deputy commander, left, presents Patrick Foley, retired hydrology chief; with a commemorative clock Sept. 10, in honor of his selection as the district's 2015 hall of fame awardee.

*Photo by Emily Chavolla*



Retired St. Paul District employees gathered at the Lost Spur Golf and Event Center in Eagan, Minn., Sept. 10, to honor Patrick Foley as the district's 2015 hall of fame awardee.

*Photo by Emily Chavolla*

## Foley recognized as 2015 Hall of Fame recipient at retirees luncheon

Story by Ben Watson

**D**ecades of Corps' history and experience marshaled for the district's annual hall of fame induction and retiree luncheon Sept. 10.

More than 70 past and current employees attended the 40th annual event at the Lost Spur Golf and Event Center in Eagan, Minnesota, to welcome the newest member to grace the hall of fame wall – Patrick Foley

Foley served the St. Paul District for 41 years, 27 of them as chief of the hydraulics section. During his tenure, he provided exceptional leadership and technical expertise to the district and the Army Corps of Engineers, according to the award citation.

His technical ability and reputation were recognized nationally in the hydraulics and hydrology community

of practice and earned him positions on the Corps' hydrology committee. He served on several Corps research committees to include the Corps' hydraulics and hydrology task force; and as a writer for technical guidance and efforts to incorporate climate change science into the Corps' missions.

"All he accomplished during his four-

decade career, both personally and through others, served to raise the capability and reputation of the St. Paul District," said Mike Knoff, hydraulics and hydrology branch chief. "I was truly fortunate to spend a large part of my career working with him."

Jim Kursu, district retiree, coordinated the event and Wayne Knott, district retiree, served as the event emcee.

## Wilmes returns to lead recreation, natural resources section

Story by Patrick Moes

**A**fter working in six different districts and four divisions during his 27-year career, the new St. Paul District recreation and natural resources chief has returned to where it all began.

Mark Wilmes, a Mankato, Minnesota, native, began his

career with the Corps of Engineers working as a summer park ranger at Baldhill Dam, near Valley City, North Dakota. He worked at Leech Lake, near Federal Dam, Minnesota, the following year, and in the St. Paul District office before transferring to the New England Division to work as

a park ranger.

Working on the East Coast, Wilmes climbed the ranks while learning about the Corps' flood control, hydropower, recreation, environmental stewardship and environmental compliance programs. After nearly 15 years of service in

New Hampshire, Connecticut and Vermont, he was on the move again to the Louisville District where he worked at Rough River Lake in central Kentucky.

While working in Kentucky, Wilmes said the Rough River Lake project, consisting of four campgrounds and three marinas and had the "largest, most contentious shoreline management program in the Louisville District." He said he learned a lot about dealing with people while working there, as well as the need to manage natural resources for future generations.

Eager to learn more about the Corps, Wilmes said he accepted a temporary assignment to work as the operations project manager at Greers Ferry Lake in north central Arkansas. The project, one of the biggest in the Corps, has an annual visitation of approximately 7.5 million visitors. The project also has 14 campgrounds, 1,260 campsites and nine marinas. Wilmes said the

**"I tell all of my younger employees that we have a long history and each employee represents the Corps and serves as the face of the organization."**

**-Mark Wilmes, recreation and natural resources chief**

enormity of the project was evident once he arrived. During his tenure at the project, he encountered tornados and dealt with a severe flood that remains the flood of record for the lake. He said it was a "baptism of fires, but it was a great learning opportunity."

In all, Wilmes has managed more



Mark Wilmes, is the new St. Paul District recreation and natural resources chief.

Photo by Patrick Moes

than 30 projects within the Corps. He said the experiences have taught him a lot about being a leader. "I'm used to being out in the public," he said. "I'm used to being the face of the Corps."

In addition to learning how to deal with the public, Wilmes said he's learned "a lot of different ways to do things and to see things." He added that his experiences have taught him to appreciate what the Corps represents. "We are a proud

organization," he said. "I tell all of my younger employees that we have a long history and each employee represents the Corps and serves as the face of the organization."

The face of the St. Paul District recreation and natural resources section said he's looking forward to the challenges and opportunities here. He said the district's project lands are much smaller than some of the projects he's managed in the past, but he said this affords him

and his staff the ability to work with a variety of stakeholders to preserve these areas for the next generation.

Looking into the future, Wilmes said he's focused on what he refers to as the three Ms – money, manpower and mission. He said the money drives what can be done, but the people are the lifeblood of the organization; and, collectively, they help the Corps accomplish the mission.

Wilmes said part of his mission right now is to build the bench for the next

generation. "My goal is to always leave a place better than I found it," he said. "I try to hire the future leaders and develop and mentor them to lead the next generation."

"I have a vision for what I'd like to see, what is best for the Corps of Engineers," he added. "I've been fortunate to have worked for 27 years for this great organization. I've seen a lot of great places and met a lot of great people, but it's nice to be back home."



A tow passes by Blackhawk Park, located on the Mississippi River about 25 miles south of La Crosse, Wis. The recreation and natural resources section manages nearly 500,000 surface water acres, more than 25,000 fee-title acres as well as 22 recreation areas, 13 project areas and 12 campgrounds.

*Photo by George Stringham*



A pair of campers play horseshoes at Leech Lake Dam and Recreation Area this summer.

*Photo by George Stringham*



Resident engineer Scott Baker, engineering and construction, right, talks with the contractor and project partners during a weekly progress meeting at the Harper's Slough project site.

*Photo by George Stringham*



Contractors work on an island near Lansing, Iowa. Once completed, the island will help protect an existing island, while the backwater area between the islands will provide new habitat for wildlife.

*Photo by George Stringham*

## Harpers Slough restoration gains ground

Story by George Stringham

**A**fter years of degradation, Mississippi River islands near Lansing, Iowa, are receiving much needed attention.

The Harper's Slough Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project will protect five existing islands and construct an additional seven islands using material from the backwater and main channel. The project also includes protecting or restoring 98 acres of island habitat and creating more than 20 acres of overwintering habitat for bluegills and other fish species, which would contribute to enhancing the aquatic diversity in the 3,500-acre project area.

The project is located within the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge and is part of the Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program. The program is a multi-agency, multi-district plan that restores aquatic habitat along the river, said Tom Novak, project management.

"Partnerships are great," Novak said. "Everyone brings a little bit to the table, and it really makes for a better project."

Due largely to an early spring thaw and no flooding, the 2015 construction season for the Harpers Slough project yielded the construction of three new islands, two of which will serve to protect existing islands. More than

170,000 cubic yards of sand and fine materials and 25,000 tons of rock were placed this season.

"We really couldn't have expected better construction conditions than we did this year," Novak said. "To be able to do this work in the river, up here, from April to mid-October, is very rare."

Depending on weather conditions, Novak said he hopes an additional three islands will be constructed in 2016. The final islands should be constructed in 2017 with the project scheduled to be completed by 2019.

The program emphasizes habitat rehabilitation and enhancement projects and long-term resource monitoring. Project component includes dredging backwater areas and channels, constructing dikes, creating and stabilizing islands and controlling side channel flows and water levels. Once the project is completed, the project will be turned over to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who manages the refuge. Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program partners include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' St. Paul, Rock Island and St. Louis districts; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; the U.S. Geological Survey; the natural resources department in Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin and the public.



## District team battles elements, terrain and fatigue to reach the finish line

Story by Patrick Moes

**T**he dog days of August were only one of the challenges a district team of runners tackled recently along the banks of the Mississippi River.

The 12-person group was one of more than 420 teams participating in the Ragnar Great River Road Relay

Race Aug. 14-15. The 202.9-mile race starts in Winona, Minnesota, before crossing the river and winding north toward Minneapolis.

Starting at 10 a.m., Aug. 14, Bob Edstrom, project management, started the race off for the district's team. Passing a snap bracelet to the next

runner, the process would be repeated 35 more times. The team traveled in two vans with all six runners in each van tackling one of their three legs before the van would leapfrog the other group and prepare for the next run.

Battling extreme heat that reached

into the high 90s, Capt. Phil Denker, planning and team captain, said the team was "dealing with conditions that are rarely experienced in our district but each member of the team shared in the effort to overcome the heat and finish the race."

Despite the challenges of Mother



The 2015 St. Paul District Ragnar Relay Race team celebrated crossing the finish line in Minneapolis, Aug. 15.

Photo by Melissa Raisl



The 2015 St. Paul District Ragnar Relay Race team bib and bracelet were worn by each runner during the race.

Photo by Patrick Moes

Nature, the team maintained a 9 minute, 24 second pace and completed the race with a combined time of 31 hours, 32 minutes, 32 seconds.

Denker said the experience was “like much of the Army experience, you have a team brought together to face a demanding, exhausting, painful task and you pull together to overcome obstacles and complete the mission. We were a success!”

The runners include:

Brain Alberto, engineering and construction;

Charles Boyd, engineering and construction;

Nate Campbell, project management;

Capt. Phil Denker, planning;

Bod Edstrom; project management;

Roberta Just, operations;

Capt. Nathan Justin, University of Wisconsin, Stout, Reserve Officer Training Corps;

Corby Lewis; engineering and construction;

Patrick Moes; public affairs;

Capt. Chris Raisl; operations;

Luke Schmidt, engineering and construction; and

Lt. Col. Chris Thompson, deputy district commander.

Christine Moss, engineering and construction; and Lisa Lund, operations, also participated in the race, but for other teams. Bobber also stopped by the finish line to support the team and all of the runners.



Bob Edstrom, project management, started the race Aug. 14, at 10 a.m.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



Capt. Chris Raisl, operations; and Capt. Phil Denker, planning, take a break in Stockholm, Wis., during the race Aug. 14.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



Capt. Dwight Howell, project management, volunteers at a race exchange near Fountain City, Wis. Nicole Denker also volunteered.

*Photo by Patrick Moes*



## 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](mailto:cemvp-pa@usace.army.mil).

## Seasonal/New hires

**Jill Bathke**, operations, biologist, district office.  
**Craig Bauer**, operations, deckhand, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Ethel Brown**, planning, secretary, district office.  
**Matt Clark**, operations, management and program analyst, district office.  
**Stephen Davis**, operations, environmental protection assistant, district office.  
**Bonnie Gundrum**, operations, environmental protection assistant, Waukesha, Wis.  
**Lemoyne Hartness**, operations, environmental protection assistant, Brainerd, Minn.  
**Jamie Hill**, operations, deckhand, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Jeffrey Kirkey**, safety officer engineering technician, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Nancy Komulainen-Dillenburg**, operations, environmental protection assistant, Bemidji, Minn.  
**Laura Nabity**, contracting, contract specialist, district office.  
**John Riederer**, contracting, contract specialist, district office.  
**Jeffery Rindal**, operations, deckhand, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Jeremy Roberts**, operations, environmental protection assistant, Brainerd, Minn.  
**Matthew Rolbiecki**, operations, deckhand, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Dominic Schneider**, engineering and construction, engineering aid, district office.  
**Eric Swanson**, operations, lock and dam operator, Hastings, Minn.  
**Garret Thiltgen**, operations, biologist, Hayward, Wis.  
**John Thrailkill**, operations, deckhand, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Armon Truell**, operations, deckhand, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Meghan Wessel**, operations, soil scientist, La Crescent, Minn.  
**Terry Zenker**, contracting, contract specialist, district office.

## Retirees

**Larry Fisher**, operations, lock and dam operator, Hastings, Minn.  
**Dennis Kupietz**, operations, lock and dam operator, Fountain City, Wis.  
**Dawn Linder**, contracting, contract specialist, district office.  
**Carol Olson**, contracting, contract specialist, district office.

## Multi-agency team uses might for mussels



The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recognized the Interagency Upper Mississippi River Mussel Coordination Team as the 2014 Endangered Species Recovery Champions. The team led the successful relocation of Higgins eye mussel to areas within the Mississippi River. Dan Kelner, planning, leads the team.

*Photo by Jill Utrup, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

## Vets tackle Gull Lake during inaugural fishing event



Gull Lake Recreation Area staff hosted the inaugural Wounded Warriors Fishing Tournament Sept. 12. There were 15 anglers and six guides that participated in the event. The event was coordinated in partnership with the Wounded Warriors Guide Service, Camp Ripley, Confidence Learning Center and Corps staff.

*Courtesy photo*



## Taps

**John R. Dickson**, former lock and dam operator, passed away Sept. 24.  
**Timothy Fuller**, former head lock and dam operator, passed away Oct. 12.  
**Lynn Markay Harris**, former personnel chief, passed away Oct. 9.  
**Bob Larsen**, former lock operator at Lock and Dam 3, passed away June 8.  
**Lloyd Mass**, former lock and dam operator, passed away Oct. 4.

## Congratulations

**Brett Coleman**, executive office, on his selection as the executive assistant.  
**Monique Johs**, personnel, on her selection as a human resources specialist.  
**Keith LeClaire**, planning, on receiving his GIS Professional certification.  
**A.J. Loewenhagen**, operations, on his selection as the new assistant master on the Dredge Goetz.  
**Tom Lytle**, engineering and construction, on his promotion.  
**Greg Kohler**, planning, and **Jason Smith**, planning, on completing the year-long Corps of Engineers Planning Associates class.  
**Michael Schamaun**, operations, on his promotion to head lock and dam operator at Lock and Dam 5A, in Fountain City, Wis.  
**Gordy Stanton**, operations, on his selection as the new chief engineer on the Dredge Goetz.  
**Natalie Siok**, engineering and construction, on the birth of her fifth grandchild and first grandson. Jack Lewis Erickson was born July 16, and was 8 lbs., 11 ozs., and 22 inches long.



Congratulations to **Nate Campbell**, project management, and his wife, **Caitlin**, on the birth of their son, **Angus Aldrich Campbell**, Sept. 7. He was 7 lbs., 3 ozs., and 19.75 inches long.