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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 21
HOLIDAY

February 22
PRB

Main Conference Room

Townhall Meeting on NSPS
Main Conference Room

March 1-2
Environmental Listening Sessions

March 3-4
TWCA Conference

March 16
PRB

Cedar Bayou Public Meeting

March 24
Coastal Coordination
Council Meeting

Recreation Committee News

The recreation committee would like to welcome it's members for FY2005.

Upcoming events include: bake sales, a Spring raffle, and car washes. We will keep you posted on Engineer Day!

As always thank you for your support of your recreation committee. WE are only as good as the amount of support you give us.



Col. Haustein presents Herbie Maurer with the Admiral of the Texas Navy.

Maurer retires after 40 years

Friends, more than 300 of them, gathered in Galveston Jan.13 to celebrate the retirement of Herbie Maurer, chief of Programs and Project Management Division and deputy district engineer for Galveston District.

The gala, held in the ballroom of the San Luis Hotel, saw Maurer receiving some of the nation's most distinguished awards, the Silver DeFleury medal and the Meritorious Service medal.

In his forty years of working at the Corps, Maurer became a well-known figure up and down the Texas coastline.

His distinguished, slow, soft-drawling voice was

familiar to all in the room as he gave his thanks to those in attendance for the honor they did him.

Maurer began his civil service career in 1964 as a civil engineer after graduating from Texas A& M University.

During his career, all spent within Galveston District, Maurer has served as chief of the compliance section, regulatory branch within the Construction-Operation Division; chief, engineering section of the same division; area engineer for the Fort Point Area Office; and chief, operations and maintenance branch. In 1996, he became

Maurer continue on page 3...

New Border Patrol HQ a year from completion

The foundations have been laid for two of the three structures U.S. Customs & Border Protection will use as its new Rio Grande Valley sector headquarters scheduled to open in January 2006.

The 15,531-square-foot support building and 23,814-square-foot enforcement structure both have one floor each and are being built first.

A two-story management building totaling 19,401 square feet will also be constructed on 29 acres at the southeast corner of Trenton Road and U.S. Highway 281.

The construction work began in December and is overseen by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston district.

"The \$22 million headquarters will replace the Border Patrol's small, aging facility on two acres on Wichita Avenue in McAllen. About 300



Construction at Border Patrol headquarters.

employees working at this location will move to the Edinburg site, along with legal staff now working in Harlingen," said Uvaldo Garcia, the sector's assistant chief in charge of new facilities and construction.

The Border Patrol will still use its McAllen sector building, which is located next to McAllen-Miller International Airport, for human resources

Beach nourished

Beneficial use of dredged material on Port O'Connor Recreational Beach

A Corps of Engineers sponsored maintenance dredging job near Port O'Connor, Texas was turned into a benefit for the beach.

Routine channel maintenance near Port O'Connor provided approximately 85,000 cubic yards of sand that was placed upon the Port O'Connor recreational beach. The primary contractor for the job was Affolter Contracting of Texas City, Texas with King Fisher Marine Services of Port Lavaca, Texas as the subcontractor for dredging.

Beneficial uses of dredged material depend upon its quality, its quantity, and its location. Maintenance material from the channel has been used beneficially on the recreational beach since around 1997.

Work on the project started in October 2004 and was completed November 2004. The contract was \$1,038,040.00.

The project was a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District and the City of Port O'Connor.

management and vehicle maintenance.

The headquarters is expected to pump \$3.4 billion into the city's economy during a 30-year period, according to information from the Edinburg Economic Development Corp. and the University of Texas — Pan American's economics department.

More space was needed so

HQ continue on page 3...

Commander's Column



Col. Steven P. Haustein



The Sand Castle

www.swg.usace.army.mil

*A newsletter for and by
the employees of the Galveston
District*

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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The new year of 2005 started off at 100 mph and shifting gears! I have given up on the idea that things were going to slow down at Thanksgiving, at Christmas or after the beginning of the year. I realize that it's not going to slow down...period.

February is Black History month. I encourage everyone to take some time to enjoy the scheduled to celebrate our diversity. We are a nation that is made up mostly of immigrants from other lands. This month, Black History Month, recognizes the significant contributions that Black Americans have made to our history, our arts, our sciences and our American fabric.

Last month, Team Galveston made a little history of its own. As the District Commander, I signed the regulatory permit authorizing construction of the first Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) facility along the Texas coast. Issuing this permit is completely compatible with our District mission of promoting economic prosperity while maintaining environmental sustainability. The permit application was evaluated against high environmental standards. Having passed that test, the proposed facility at Freeport will provide the region with a significant economic engine for years to come.

I wanted to take a minute in this month's letter to say farewell to a number of Team Galveston's closest teammates and friends. Internal to the District, we have recently retired several who have been with us for decades: Herbie Maurer, Mike McClenan, Bobby Perez, Phil Coughlin, and Eliseo Cadena. I know that each of these individuals served with distinction for many years and that the Texas Coast is a better place due to their efforts.

External to the District, Team Galveston and the nation recently lost several pioneers in the navigation business. With great sorrow, we observed the passing of Mr. King Fisher and Mr. Luhr. These gentlemen are legends in our business that literally wrote the books on navigation best-practices. One cannot imagine what the navigation state of art that be without the vision of these risk takers.

I want to share with you some of the comments from the Chief of Engineers at the annual District Engineers Conference in Washington. LTG Carl Strock spent the entire week with us and provided us a great deal of personal insight. More than anything, my take-away from the Chief's comments was that the initiatives that have been spawned in the past few years (USACE 2012, P2, RBCs, etc) are here to stay so get on board to help makes these changes operational. The Chief ended the week with a town hall meeting and listed his priorities for the Corps of Engineers:

1. Support to the Global War on Terrorism
2. Disaster Response
3. Ongoing civil works and Milcon program execution
4. Supporting Army Transformation
5. Environmental Sustainability

LTG Strock ended the conference by giving five items to focus on. They are completely transferable throughout every level of USACE, so you can take them as your own.

1. Focus on mission execution
2. Emphasize proactive engagement and responsiveness
3. Be better, faster, cheaper, safer and greener
4. Take care of each other and our people.
5. Have fun

Let me close this month's letter by asking you to step up your efforts a notch. Execution is our measure of success. We're behind last year's execution rate for a number of reasons. And, not one of

Commander's column continue on page 3...

PAO takes a step forward in USACE 2012 process with regional newsletter, *Pacesetter*, in April

Starting in April, the Southwestern Division will launch the first regional electronic news service in the Corps. The service, named in honor of all the dedicated employees throughout the region who prove themselves Pacesetters on a daily basis, will also display the division and all district logos directly under the name, *The Pacesetter*.

This electronic news service is another step forward in our Corps 2012 process of improving as a region. Due to downsizing and budget restraints, the ability to produce district newsletters was already inconsistent. And, as SWD goes to one regional overhead rate, our corporate bodies, the Board of Directors and the Regional Management Board, composed of leadership from all districts and the division, had to look at alternatives that would assure that we would keep everyone in the region informed in a timely, professional manner. In November the Board of Directors approved the electronic news service as the vehicle to make that happen.

A regional Project Delivery Team composed of public affairs specialists in each district and the division office will produce the *Pacesetter* electronic news service nine times per year. Although the service will be web based, *The Pacesetter* will be a flexible product.

In consideration of our employees, as well as retirees, the *Pacesetter* will be formatted so that it can easily be run off in hard copy using a printer at work or at home. *If retirees have any problem getting a copy, they should contact district Public Affairs Offices for assistance accessing the new service.* District PAOs may also produce excerpts as needed.

The Pacesetter, the voice of the entire Southwestern Division, will provide a regional focus for news, assure consistent messages, save money, incorporate the tenets of the Corps' 2012 philosophy, and symbolize our unity as a regional team. I am proud that Southwestern Division is taking the initiative to adopt innovative approaches to improving our regional processes and positioning itself to retain the title, *Pacesetter* Division!

JEFFREY J. DORKO
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding



The San Jacinto monument was the location of the Coastal America Partnership award ceremony.



Al Meyer, one of the award recipients, pictured looking over the marsh.



Marsh at San Jacinto

Employees receive award for San Jacinto marsh restoration

Three Galveston District employees were named among team members receiving the 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award for the San Jacinto Marsh restoration and interpretive trail team.

Al Meyer, Bay Area Office, Tim Few, geotech and Carolyn Murphy, environmental, were honored along with other team members at a December ceremony held at the San Jacinto Monument. The San Jacinto team was responsible for the plan to restore the tidal marsh of the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic site to its 1836 appearance and function.

The Corps was able to abet this plan with the beneficial use of dredged material from the nearby Houston Ship Channel.

The restoration and

interpretation project, which received the 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award, completes two major components of the park restoration program: restoration of 100 plus acres of tidal marsh habitat and construction of a 3-mile long interpretative trail that includes a boardwalk, observation decks, outdoor classrooms, and an education and outreach program.

The process through which the project evolved was fairly unique regarding the range of partners who came together to make it a reality.

Corporations, individuals, local government, state government, federal government and non-governmental organizations all contributed materially to the project, while

volunteers did everything from saw lumber to plant marsh grasses.

Keynote speaker for the event was P. Lynn Scarlett, assistant secretary for policy, management and budget, US Department of Interior.

At the time of the San Jacinto battle, 1836, most of the area was open prairie. Bands of trees lined the bluffs overlooking the marsh. Creeks and gullies emptied into the marsh and a few small "islands" of trees dotted the landscape.

Otherwise, the battle was fought in grass "as tall as a horse's belly." The new trail passes through a grassland closely resembling that early prairie.

In the absence of periodic fire, the prairie is now

maintained by mowing which discourages Chinese tallow trees and other woody plants and helps return nutrients to the soil. Individual areas are mowed each spring and/or early winter. This gives native grasses all summer and fall to mature, flower and produce seed.

The tidal marsh at San Jacinto was completely converted to open water in the late 1900's by subsidence caused by pumping tremendous volumes of water out of the ground for industry. It was restored in the 1990's by pumping clean sand and sediment into the marsh from the adjacent San Jacinto River (Houston Ship Channel).

The project to restore all of the tidal wetlands at San Jacinto is ongoing.

Maurer continued from page 1...

chief of the Construction-Operations Division.

The Victoria, Tex., native graduated with a Bachelors Degree in civil engineering and is a registered professional engineer and a registered professional land surveyor in the state of Texas. He is also a member of the Western Dredging Association. He also serves on the editorial board of the *World Dredging Magazine*.

He is married to the former Gloria Rangnow and they have two children, Allen and Cynthia.

HQ continued from page 1...

sector staff could oversee the work of the growing number of agents the region has acquired since the early 1990s.

Garcia said the sector, which consists of a geographical boundary formed by the Starr-Zapata county line to the west, the Rio Grande to the south, the Gulf Coast to the east and the Victoria-Edna area to the north, has grown from having 300 agents in the early 1990s to about 1,600 agents now.

Garcia said the Border Patrol has had to lease buildings throughout McAllen for departments to use because of

cramped conditions at its sector headquarters.

Some of the features of the new headquarters include security cameras, detention ponds and lush landscaping.

"The buildings will be made of steel, pre-cast concrete and masonry walls," said Jose M. Guerrero, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, project engineer. "The structures will be connected by breezeways and will be built slightly higher than the land. Plaza-like buffers will keep drivers from getting too close to the buildings for security reasons."

Commander's column continued from page 2...

these reasons matters whatsoever.

Our requirements exceed our resources. One of my primary tasks as the District Engineer is to seek additional resources for the District.

I can't do that while it appears that we can't execute additional dollars. My intent is to execute 75% of our FY05 budget by the end of 2nd quarter. In order to get there, I need your support. Execute.

Farewell message...

“Well, the time has come to say goodbye and hello. I have experienced a very rewarding 40 year career in SWG but it is time to enjoy other adventures and happy times during ones life time. I am glad to have had the opportunity to be a part of the professionalism and daily association with TEAM GALVESTON, SWD, USACE, CUSTOMERS, PARTNERS, SPONSORS, AND OTHER ENTITIES. Past commanders and now Col. Haustein placed their trust in me by giving me the freedom and friendship to perform my job in a very enjoyable environment. I also feel very privileged and proud being part of a very successful team in working for a premier organization, namely SWG. I credited all of you as a member of TEAM GALVESTON contributing to this environment which draws one to work daily to enjoy the fruits of accomplishments. All this has been very rewarding to me.

Each of you has an important part and a great challenge as a member of a changing and learning organization to meet requirement of the future. Changes may seem difficult but rewarding in the end with success. Help mold the pathway of the future through your leadership by setting the goals of the organization and exceed expectations of our partners, customers, and Congress. Remember, an organization or company is its people. Treat each person as you wish to be treated; with respect and integrity.

Thanks to each of you that chose me as your mentor (and those who I chose to mentor in the hallways without your solicitation). Your trust in me was a great honor. You are excellent leaders but continue to seek improvements in your leadership skills. What a great attitude so keep reading and increasing your knowledge base. My simple take on becoming a great leader is be yourself while practicing those leadership skills you have read and belief. Great leadership is demonstrated through ones actions such as consideration and respect for others, honesty, integrity, two way communications, etc. I do know that leadership is NOT attempting to influence others through domination and force ones beliefs/opinions on others. With this unsolicited view, I declare you GRADUATES, so just pull out your “just do it cards” and have fun doing it.

For the personnel assigned to the Field Offices, time has ran out to visit with you but my intentions are to visit with you each as I travel up and down the coast. Just remember me without a tie. Looking forward to visiting with you.

My final departing comments to all of you is a sincere statement of appreciation: “ THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR WHAT I HAVE LEARNED WHICH HAS BEEN MY RICHEST REWARD.”

Herbie



Gloria Maurer receives the Yellow Rose of Texas.



Col. Haustein awards Herbie with retirement certificate.



Herbie with Dolan Dunn, who presented him a regulatory certificate at the luncheon.



Herbie holds his gift from project/program mgmt.



Herbie and Col. Hausetin hold up his gift from his alma mater, Texas A&M, Kingsville.



Past and present Galveston District commanders who Herbie served with during his career.



Paula Wise, emerging leaders, shares a hug with Herbie.



Simon DeSoto, lockmaster of the Colorado River Locks gifts Herbie with a clock.



Herbie receives plaque from Raymond Butler, executive director of GICA.

Galveston District and G.I.S.D. serve as model for Team WET

Through the efforts of Galveston District employees, the Galveston Independent School District is to serve as the model for an innovative water education project, designated as "Team WET."

Maj. Sean Jones will serve as the program manager and, along with Rosenberg Elementary School Principal Billie Rinaldi, looks forward to introducing the wonders of water education and stewardship to the Rosenberg students.

Kris Brown, Addicks Project Office, has served as the contact point between the Corps and the Council of Environmental Education.

The CEE is responsible for developing curriculum content, providing corporate/agency sponsors to help fund the cost of materials and training for teachers to teach the program.

The Team WET (water education team), provides a mechanism for fostering water stewardship in youth to help address the nation's water challenges and to bring urban water issues to the forefront of environmental education in school buildings.

Program materials that include a curriculum guide of activities, student handouts



Team WET met at the Jadwin building in early February. Members include from left: Josetta Hawthorne, CEE director; Rhonda Brown, project management; Jake Walsdorf, general engineering; Maj. Jones, planning; Kenny Jaynes, regulatory; and Kris Brown, Houston project office.

available in both English and Spanish, field lab equipment and training for teachers who may receive six continuing education credits are among the benefits that the schools receive through the program.

The Galveston District is responsible for providing Rosenberg with volunteers from among the Corps' professional experts to provide guidance and advice regarding environmental

issues and projects, according to Brown.

Rosenberg Elementary will provide the students and teachers to pilot the project.

The Team Wet in the Galveston District is serving as the USACE model for implementation of "Team WET Schools" and "WET in the City" projects nationwide.

For 34 years, the CEE has been a nationally recognized

leader in environmental education, providing programs and services that promote responsible stewardship of natural resources.

It creates and supports programs as well as partnerships, such as the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation with whom the Corps has a Memorandum of Understanding.

Corps says farewell to Mike McClenan



Bay Area Office pose for the camera with Mike and his wife, Barbara, and give them both a hardy farewell.

After 37 years of service, Mike McClenan, Bay Area Office, hung up his Corps hard hat and said farewell to the Corps.

On January 20, co-workers, friends and retirees gathered at the Jadwin building for a retirement ceremony.

Lt. Col. Sallèse presented McClenan with the Superior Civilian Service certificate and medal. Along with the traditional shrimp plaque, and paperweight, McClenan received several gag gifts from his co-workers. Mike you will be missed!



Lt. Col. Sallèse presents Mike with the Superior Civilian Service certificate and medal.

Toad in the Road Program results in ATM machine being installed

At the most recent Toad-In-The-Road meeting it was suggested by Kathi Moore, program management, that an ATM machine be installed in the Jadwin Building. The ATM was installed in the cafeteria early February and is ready for use.

Each time you use the ATM the recreation committee receives 25 cents that will assist with events throughout the year, the maximum for each transaction is \$200.00. The cost per transaction is \$1.75.

Logistics would like to thank the following employees for their contributions: Joy Smith, Eric Wilmore, Mike Flynn, Chris Wrbas, BJ Johnson, Alex Petty, Valerie Riedel and Eric Procter.

A winter wonderland



Christmas morning - Galveston 2004

Christmas Day at the Jadwin building. Photo and graphics by Cheryl Waterworth



Darrell and Lisa Johnson's home in Santa Fe, Texas (4 inches of snow)



Paula and Bill Wise's kids show their Aggie pride.

Personnel: New Army resume builder comes with a few kinks

When applying for Department of Army vacancy announcements, it is highly recommended that you utilize the automated Army Resume Builder tool in order to construct your resume in the proper format as required by Army.

Once you have done this, it is necessary that you submit a copy of your resume from the Army Resume Builder to the Resumix application system for consideration of any vacancy announcement.

You would then need to self-nominate yourself for the appropriate vacancy (this can be done by clicking on the "Self Nominate" link at the bottom of the vacancy announcement), and finally you would check the ANSWER system to ensure that both your resume and self-nomination have properly

flowed to the Resumix system.

At this time, due to extremely high submission rates, you may not see your resume in ANSWER for up to 48 hours from the time at which you submitted it from the Army Resume Builder. If you submit your resume from the Army Resume Builder to Resumix, but cannot yet confirm receipt in ANSWER, please do not resubmit your resume until you have waited the 48-hour timeframe. Instead, submit your resume from the Army Resume Builder to Resumix once; upon submission of your resume, a confirmation page will be displayed in your Internet browser— PRINT this confirmation page as proof of your resume submission. Then, check in ANSWER for the next 48 hours until you see that your

resume has flowed into the Resumix system.

If you have modifications to make to your resume after your original submission, you can do so by logging into the Army Resume Builder, making your alterations, and then submitting a copy of the updated resume to Resumix. Again, please submit the updated resume only once and then check ANSWER for the next 48 hours for confirmation of receipt.

It is recommended that you never wait until the last minute to submit your resume and self-nomination. However, you need not worry about missing consideration if you do happen to wait until the closing date of a particular vacancy announcement to submit your resume to Resumix, as the processing of the vacancies will

not occur until verification has been received at the CPOC level that all resumes submitted on the closing date for that announcement have been received in the Resumix system.

Refraining from submitting multiple copies of the same resume should help to alleviate the stress being placed on the systems at this time, thereby decreasing the amount of time it is currently taking for resumes to flow into Resumix.

If you have any questions concerning your application, please do not hesitate to contact the POC listed at the bottom of the particular vacancy announcement for which you are applying.

CPAC
U.S. Army Civilian HR Agency
Southwestern Division

BEP has new manager and outlook on program

The Galveston District welcomes, Pat Agee, administrative assistant in the executive office as the newly appointed Black Employment Program manager.

"I've been involved with BEP since 1988 at Fort Campbell, KY," said Pat Agee. "As manager my vision is have a strong Special Emphasis Program. In order to make this happen the BEPC has to support the other Special Emphasis Groups."

Agee's goals are to recruit new members, energize the present members, present activities/workshops/speakers etc. that will enhance all Team Galveston's professional and personal growth.

At this time, the Corps continues its partnership with



Pictured from left to right: Lt. Col. Chris Sallèse, BEP manager Pat Agee, Johnnie Simmons, Pam Thibodeaux, and Byron Williams.

Prairie View A&M and are in the process of rejuvenating the partnership with Ball High School said Agee.

Anyone wishing to be a

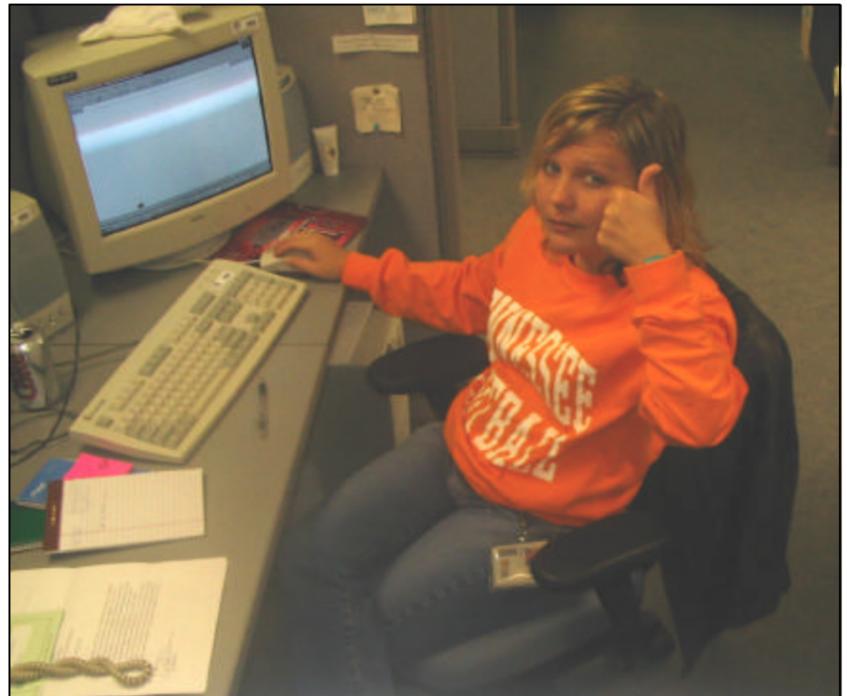
member, the only requirements are that you are not afraid to bring your ideas to the table and you have a passion for people. If you are interested in becoming a

Black Employment Program Committee member you may call Rose Caballero, x3920 or Pat Agee, x3861

Aggies lose Cotton Bowl - two Ag' employees suffer the consequences



Sam Watson, planning



Alicia Rea, regulatory

Andy Williams, regulatory, a graduate of the University of Tennessee, made a bet with fellow employees, Alicia Rea and Sam Watson, both very-proud to be Aggies on the outcome of the Cotton Bowl. As shown above, the Aggies lost to Tennessee, 38-7.

Castle Comments

Congratulations

With tremendous pleasure, Col. Haustein announced, February 8th, that Lt. Col. Chris Sallèse has been selected to command an engineer battalion.

The good news for SWG is that we will be able to keep Chris until summer 2006 when he will assume command.

Congratulations goes out to Marianne Sefcik, EEO, who recently became engaged to Frank Gafke, Jr., who is employed by Halliburton.

Baby News

Kim Crawford, gave birth an 8 lb baby boy on December 29, 2004. Mother and baby Michael Crawford, Jr. are doing great! Kim was a former employee of the Galveston District.

Speechmakers

Paul Cox, operations, presented a exhibit on the various careers that Galveston District offers at a recent job fair at Ball High School in Galveston.

Clark Colquitt, geotech engineering, presented a recruiting exhibit at Prairie View A&M Feb. 9 at its job fair.

Good job!

Grace Procter, operations, Robert Pietzsch, mail room contractor volunteered their time to judge the Science Fair at Galveston Catholic School, 5th thru 8th grade January 21.

Robert judged the 6th thru 8th graders in the following categories: physics, chemistry and earth/space. Grace judged 5th - 8th grade biology and 5th - 6th environmental science.

Chief of Navigation, Joe Hrametz announced that Ben Boren and Karl Brown were selected to fill the two vacant Operation Manger positions on the GIWW.

Ben will manage the GIWW from Port Arthur to Matagorda Bay and Karl Brown will manage the GIWW from Matagorda Bay to Port Isabel, Brownsville Ship Channel, Port Isabel and Port Mansfield.

Paul E. Roberts, son of Geva and Terry Roberts, planning, passed his eagle scout board of review on Sept. 2, 2004. He is now officially an Eagle Scout. He was also awarded the rank at the Court of Honor.

Paul has earned 41 merit badges, including the required 21. He is currently a freshman at Ball High School.

Condolences

It is with sadness that we inform you that Colorado River Locks Operator Jesse Deshotels grandfather, Henry Green of Bay City, passed away January 14. Please keep Jesse and his family in your prayers during this difficult time in their lives.

The father of Jackie Adekanbi, contracting, Anthony Benjamin, passed away in January. Funeral services were held Jan. 22 in Houston. Jackie would like thank everyone for their many acts of kindness, prayers, support and comfort at this time.

Robert Rivers, brother of Bernice Rivers, real estate, passed away, February 4th at Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston. Please keep Bernice and her family in your prayers.