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UPCOMING EVENTS

July 21-22
Raymondville Drain Project
Public Meetings

July 30
Farewell Dinner for
Col. Waterworth

August 3
Roast and Toast for
Col. Waterworth

August 4
Change of Command Ceremony
Jadwin Building Grounds

August 11
Townhall Meeting

August 18
PRB

August 18-20
GICA Conference
New Orleans, La.

September 4
HOLIDAY

Employees donating the "gift of life"

The following folks gave "the gift of life" on behalf of the Galveston District in June:

- Ronny Beesley
- Veronica Benavides
- Donald Carelock
- Terry Clancy
- Paul Cox
- Delia Deckard
- Pramod Desai
- Christina Desbin
- Ryan Fordyce
- Marianne Fullen
- Anavalli Gordon
- Barbara Johnson
- Thomas Mason
- Valerie Miller
- Vinh Nguyen
- Lynette Radcliffe
- Richard Roller
- Charles Stimmel
- Jacob Walsdorf
- James Worthington

Each person's donation has the potential to save or improve the lives of 3 people. That's 60 people helped in June!

Maj. Gen. Carl A. Strock takes command of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Maj. Gen. Carl A. Strock took command of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in a military ceremony on July 1 at Fort Myer, Va. Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, Army Chief of Staff, hosted the ceremony. Strock replaces Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers who retired during the same ceremony after 35 years of Army service.

Flowers served as the Army's 50th Chief of Engineers from Oct. 2000 until today.

"General Flowers is a leader, and a warrior, and we are

thankful for his dedicated service," said Schoomaker.

"The last four years, I've commanded a unique organization, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. There's nothing else like it," said Flowers.

"Unique in all the world, great civil servants, taking care of the nation and it's Armed Forces, and I'm enormously proud of all of them." He acknowledged the many Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and fellow Soldiers,

who mentored him.

During the ceremony, Flowers and Strock passed the ceremonial flag, symbolizing the change of command.

Strock is the 51st Chief of Engineers. The U.S. Senate confirmed his nomination as Chief of Engineers on June 25, with promotion to the rank of Lieutenant General. However, the promotion will not take place until later this summer.

"I am deeply honored and truly humbled to stand before
See Strock continue on page 2...

Engineer Day, a jammin' good time

By honoring their fellow employees and then enjoying themselves at the annual picnic, the Corps of Engineers celebrated another successful Engineer Day.

June 18 was a day for employees of the Galveston District to take some time to celebrate the accomplishments of their own. The day began with the awards ceremony. The posting of the colors kicked off this ceremony. Andrew Antonelli and Josh Hernandez of Scout Troop 120 took time out of their busy summers to do the honors. The posting of the colors was followed with a prayer led by Paul Cox.

From that point on the emcees of the day, Col. Waterworth and Maj. Sean Jones were running the show. The commander gave a brief introduction to a man that

See Picnic continue on page 3...



Col. Waterworth and Employee of the Year, Ronny Beesley pose for the camera.

Ronny Beesley wins top honor!

When Ronny Beesley found out that he had been nominated for Employee of the Year it was a total shock to him. "It was a great way to surprise someone. I'm sure it was a hard secret to keep," he said.

He knew he needed to be at the awards ceremony, but he thought it was just to receive a pin for a project development team he had served on. When his whole family decided to come to the ceremony, Beesley

got a little suspicious. "I was grumbling a little that my daughter was taking a day off without pay." But Beesley was glad to have his whole family there to support him on his big day. His wife, Kathy, was in on the surprise and decided to come. Beesley's daughter, Kelly, 26, took the day off to join him and his son, Kyle, 25, came with his girlfriend, Leslie.

"I was completely over-
See Beesley continue on page 6...

Public meeting on Texas City reevaluation study

A public meeting to present information on the limited reevaluation study on the Texas City Channel was held on June 22, at the Doyle Convention Center.

Officials from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District and City of Texas City (non-federal sponsor), gave an update on ongoing and planning study activities, and asked for public input regarding the study. Recreation demands and needs

of the area were also addressed.

The meeting was an opportunity for the public to help the district and the City of Texas City to identify environmental concerns, channel associated modifications that could improve the quality of the environment, and beneficial uses for dredged material.

The City of Texas City requested reactivation of the project on the emergence of the Shoal Point Container Terminal

project and the Port of Texas City renewed interest in deepening the Texas City Channel and turning basin to a depth of 45 feet. Alternatives to be evaluated are deepening the channel to 44- and 45-feet; and using dredged material to improve the dike.

Over 25 citizens attended the meeting, including the Mayor of Texas City, Matt Doyle, and the former mayor, Carlos Garza, who are both in favor of the project study.

Commander's Column



Col. Leonard Waterworth



The Sand Castle

www.swg.usace.army.mil

A newsletter for and by the employees of the Galveston District
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Please include an address and phone number on all letters. We reserve the right to edit letters for clarity, style, and space and to use them electronically and in print.

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The Sand Castle is an unauthorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of *The Sand Castle* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It is published once a month using offset printing by the Public Affairs Office of the Galveston District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 1229, Galveston, TX 77553-1229.

Every morning when I first walk into my office I am greeted by four large windows that stretch across its length. Even at the end of my tenure as the District Commander of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District, the view has never failed to amaze me. Over time I have developed an ever-deeper appreciation of what I see out my window and the significance it has to our communities, our state and our Nation.

As you walk up to those large plate glass windows, the sheer beauty of the Texas Coastline grabs your attention. Looking out, you see palm trees swaying in the breeze as the manicured lawn reaches out to a narrow strip of beach that sits at the intersection of the Galveston and Houston ship channels. As your eyes move up across the white fleet of the Coast Guard, your eye is drawn to the movement that you see on the waterway: tugs pushing barges along the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway, shrimp boats pulling in their morning catch, large sea-going cargo ships heading out of the Houston-Galveston ship channel to global destinations, sail boats enjoying the day, and dolphins and countless birds chasing the ferry to Bolivar. If the view alone was not enough to take your breath, the true value to our nation of what you see out those windows is even more impressive.

If you could stand there for a year, 24 hours a day, a person could count 20,000 ships traversing the Houston-Galveston ship channel — ships that have traveled from all over the world carrying goods of all kinds, ships queued up in the Gulf of Mexico to start the 50-mile journey to the Port of Houston, the fifth largest port in the world. As you watch ships turn for either Texas City or Houston, you can see barges pushed by tugs coming from the Gulf Intercoastal Waterway weave themselves in and around the huge blue-water cargo ships. Here too, if you could stand here for a year, 24 hours a day, you could count over 100,000 tows making their way to ports along the Texas coastline as they distribute gas, grain, petrochemicals or steel to where its needed.

Then if that were not enough, press your nose up against the glass and look to the horizon to the north across Pelican Island. You will see steam and flames coming from tall white towers. This is the start of a 50 mile-long petrochemical complex that starts in Texas City and reaches towards Houston. I have been told that it's the second largest petrochemical complex in the world. Similar views can be

See Commander's column continue on page 6...

Strock continued from page 1...



Maj. Gen. Carl A. Strock, incoming Commander of the US Army Corps of Engineers; Col. Charles Taylor, Commander of the Army's 3d United States Infantry (The Old Guard) and Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers, outgoing Commander of the US Army Corps of Engineers, inspect the troops during the July 1 Change of Command ceremony held at Fort Myer, VA. (Photo Credit, US Army Corps of Engineers, F.T. Eyre)

you today," said Strock. "I am honored because there is no greater privilege than to be entrusted with command when your nation is at war."

Strock has served the Army 33 years. He was previously assigned as the Director of Civil Works, and the Director of Military Programs at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington D.C. He also served as Deputy Director of Operations for the Coalition Provisional Authority, Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As Chief of Engineers he leads the world's largest public engineering agency with 35,000 employees.



Gen. Peter J. Schoemaker (left), U.S. Army Chief of Staff pins the historic MacArthur Castles, which are worn by the Chief of Engineers, on the lapel of Maj. Gen. Carl A. Strock. Out of the picture is Mrs. Julie Strock, wife of Maj. Gen. Strock, who assisted in the ceremony. (photo credit, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, F.T. Eyre)

Engineer Day 2004

Picnic continued from page 1...

really needed no introduction in the Galveston District, George Rothen. Rothen spoke about his time with the Corps and how the mission is slightly different but the dedication to excellence is still the same.

After Rothen's speech it was time for the awards. John Davidson was chosen as Regulator of the Year and James Worthington was named Engineer of the Year. This year's Employee of the Year was Ronny Beesley.

After the ceremony it was off to the picnic, which was held at the Elks Lodge on the island.

This year's party had a Hawaiian theme and the hardworking members of the rec committee spared no effort to make it feel like a real luau. The decorations, the band, and the games all gave this picnic a festive feel.

Good food and good company helped make this picnic and engineer day a great success.



Herbie Maurer, chief of program and project management, shows his dance moves on the floor.



Engineer of the Year winner James Worthington with Terry Bautista, chief of engineering division.



B.J. Johnson, contractor for information management, poses for the camera with her family.



Alex Petty, office of counsel, and son, Stuart, enjoy the sun, pool and good food at the picnic.



Retiree two-stepping with his wife.

Engineer Day 2004



A group of friends - Ronnie Benavides, Marianne Fullen, Mike Flynn, Lynette Radcliffe, Richard Curphey, Lucy Smith and kids.



Roseanne Theobald, program management dances with her grandkids.



Regulator of the Year, John Davidson with Dolan Dunn, chief of regulatory division.



Natalie Rund, environmental, and Alicia Rea, regulatory, take a break from working hard for the rec committee to smile for the camera.



Maj. Sean Jones, planning, and family in line for food, while Karl Brown, operations, assists.



Winner of the Public Affairs award, Simon DeSoto, lockmaster of the Colorado River Locks, with Col. Waterworth and Phyllis Bledsoe, chief of public affairs.



Nick Williams, son of Andy Williams, regulatory shows us how low he can go for the limbo contest (Nick won the contest).



Grandpa and chief of project management, Art Janecka with grandson, Mason..

Two top employees receive 40-year service awards

With 40 years of civil service under their belt, Herbie Maurer and Arthur Janecka have accomplished something that is rare in today's world. They have worked their way to the top of the organization where they started their careers.

Both men came to the Galveston District in 1964 and both men were honored for their many years of service to the district at this year's Engineer Day ceremony.

Maurer started his career as a civil engineer after he graduated from Texas A&M University. During his career, 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



Art Janecka and Herbie Maurer pose with their 40-year service awards with Col. Wawterworth.

became chief of the Construction-Operations Division.

Janecka came to the district after graduating with a civil engineering degree from Lamar University in Beaumont. He began his career as an intern. He was assigned to the Texas Coast Hurricane Study in the Planning Branch of the Engineering Division in 1966. Then, in 1973, he became a part of the Programs Management Branch staff. He became Chief of the branch in 1987. In August 2000,

he moved to the Projects Management Branch of PPMD to serve as chief.

Both men are registered professional engineers in the state of Texas. Maurer is also a registered professional land surveyor.

Maurer is a native of Victoria, TX. Maurer and his wife, the former Gloria Rangnow, have two children, Allen and Cynthia. Mrs. Maurer and their daughter, Cynthia, are both graduates of Texas A&M. The Maurer's son, Allen

graduated from University of Houston, Clear Lake. Mrs. Maurer also holds a masters degree in education from the University of Houston. The Maurer's are the proud grandparents of two grandchildren.

Janecka is a native of Columbus, Texas. He and his wife, the former Catherine Dean, live in La Marque, Texas. They have three children, Jeff, Jan, and Jill and 6 grandchildren.

Worthington and Davidson winners of engineer and regulator awards

The night before the Engineer Day picnic James Worthington's wife suggested taking the kids to the beach. Worthington didn't think too much of it, until she and the kids showed up at the awards ceremony. That's when he knew something was up. And as he entertained his son, Christopher, who was anxious to get to the beach, he almost missed his name being called as Engineer of the year.

"Worthington is an exemplary engineer who is committed not only to providing quality products on time and within budget, but also to exceeding his customer's expectations, which he does quite regularly," the nominating committee said about his contributions to the Galveston District.

Worthington is a senior design project engineer for several high-visibility projects in Galveston district, including the Sims Bayou project, Neches River Saltwater barrier project, channel to Victoria, lower Colorado River study, and recently the Houston-Galveston Navigation channel project.

In 1993, Worthington received a Bachelor of Science in

Engineering from Michigan Technological University. In 1995 he earned a Master of Engineering (honors) in structural engineering from University of Wollongong, Australia. He and his wife Angela have three children, Emily, 6, Anisa, 4 and Christopher, 2.

Another Galveston district employee who was honored at the awards day ceremony was John Davidson. Davidson was named this year's Regulator of the Year.

Davidson is a unit leader in the Regulatory Branch. In the many successful cases on which he has worked he helped bring a historically flagrant violator into compliance and has helped protect the aquatic environment with substantial acreages of mitigation and restoration. He is also credited with increasing the efficiency of the Regulatory Branch and helping lower the workload of the South Unit by approximately fifty percent.

Davidson graduated from Texas A&M Galveston with a BS in Marine Biology. He and his wife Jill have two children, Dylan, 6, and, Colin, 4.

Service Awards for 2004

5 Years

Jose Castro Rivera
Debra Jones
Gretchen Leatherwood
Reagan Richter
Trina Ruse

10 Years

Rhonda Brown
Terri Carlson
Andrea Catanzaro
John Gaskin
Robert George
Terri Stinnett-Herczeg
Lillian Terry
Daniel Williams
Nancy Young

15 Years

Kenneth Adams
Ronnie Barcak
Joel Berrey
Billy Christmas
Robert Heinly
Willie Honza
Kenneth Jaynes
Lisa Johnson
Mark Pattillo
Rafael Rubalcaba, Jr.
Paulino Sandoval
Marilyn Uhrich

20 Years

Leigh Kahla-Adams
Jacqueline Adekanbi

George Alcala
Terrill Beyer
Phyllis Bledsoe
Donald Carelock
Danny Cruz
Pramod Desai
Diana Jorgensen
Laird
Randy Moore
Michael Nelson
Vinod Patel
Jon Plymale
Katherin Reding
Denise Sloan
Lucille Smith
Ishaq Syed
Pamela Thibodeaux
Charles Thomas, Jr
Richard Washburn

25 Years

James Few
Armido Filidei, III
Marianne Fullen
Patricia Kershaw
Jacqueline
Lockhart
Donald McMahon
Gary Owens
Robert Peel
Geva Roberts
William Roberts
Luis Rodriguez

30 Years

Sal Arcidiacono
Bruce Briggs
Dewey Brunt, III
Curtis Cole, Jr.
Phillip Coughlin
Richard Curphey
Gerald Dunaway
Dolan Dunn
Elijio Garza, Jr.
Gary Johnson
Diane
Kovacevich
Kenneth
McDonald
Travers Powell
Johnny Rozsypal

35 Years

David Campbell
Thomas Moore
Robert
Richardson
John Hander

40 Years

Arthur Janecka
Herbie Maurer

Reflections of a LDP Graduate

With the Leadership Development Program (LDP) open season upon us and folks possibly thinking of applying for the program, I thought it would be useful to share from my standpoint, some of the benefits that I have realized since being in the LDP program. I've realized that leaders truly are developed at all levels in the organization. Everyone can be in a situation at any time that requires you to "step up to the plate" and assume a leadership role, whether it is situational or positional. With that in mind, throughout the 14 years that I've worked here, I have tried to continually develop and improve my knowledge base, both scientifically and in other general areas. In recent years, I have tried to focus on learning more about the various aspects of the Corps of Engineers, and the Army, in general. By doing this, I have realized why my job, and everyone else's job, is especially important to the mission of this organization. This has led to greater personal job satisfaction for me. By doing this, I also feel that I've been able to better position myself to be able to apply for

advancement opportunities when they have become available. One of the most valuable tools that I have been able to gain access to through this process, is the LDP. As we all often observe, the more that I learn, the more I realize what there STILL is to learn. I have been fortunate in that I have been able to take advantage of many professional development classes that have been offered within the Regulatory Program. I have also completed the year long non-resident Sustaining Base Leadership and Management Program. These opportunities aren't always guaranteed and have generally been the result of a lot of management support in the PER Division. While they have been great learning experiences, one of the factors that has really boosted my learning curve has been my participation in the district's LDP. I had participated previously in the former LDP effort, which was geared primarily to self-paced learning, focused primarily on books, videos and audio tapes. While these are definitely important tools, I have realized many new

opportunities for a wider variety of learning experiences with the new LDP. Our group has been able to get "hands on" experience learning different aspects of Leadership by not only observing senior leaders at work, but also by participating with them to accomplish assignments that are important to the District's future. The best part of this program is that your learning experience is not limited to things that others require. You chart your path, with the help of a mentor, and follow it, whether it involves learning things on your own, participating in classes and educational programs, shadowing a senior leader or taking advantage of different developmental assignments. Being in this program does not guarantee success or promotion. However, it does provide a definite avenue of support, through an individualized IDP, mentoring and program goals, that facilitates success for the self-motivated person. Take the opportunity and apply for this program. It will work for you, if you in turn, want to work with it!

by Janet Thomas-Botella

Beesley continued from page 1..
whelmed, totally shocked" Beesley said about his Engineer Day experience. "It was a good day and a great honor."

According to Bill Hopkins, Chief of Project Operations Branch, it was well-deserved. "Ronny is one of the most dedicated employees that I have ever had the pleasure of working with." Hopkins said that Beesley's responsibilities are enormous and varied and that he handles them all extremely well. But it is not just his devotion to his job and his excellent work ethic that impresses Hopkins. "Ronny is always totally respectful and considerate of his co-workers."

Col. Waterworth presented Beesley with a plaque to mark the occasion. "It is a beautiful plaque and it is now prominently displayed on the wall in my house," Beesley said.

Beesley is currently an Operations Manager. His projects include the Brazos River Floodgates, Colorado River Locks, and the Neches River Saltwater Barrier. He is also involved in new boat purchases for the district. Beesley started his career with the Galveston district and now has 33 years of government service.

Castle Comments Congratulations



Ashton Adekanbi son of Joshua (engineering) & Jackie (contracting) Adekanbi graduated from Clear Creek High School. Ashton will be attending Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

Thank you..

Retiree Mike Castelline and his family would like to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and flowers during his triple bypass operation.

He is home now and recovering nicely. He states that if you are shopping at the local mall, you might run into him; he is now a mall walker.

Commander's column continued from page 2..

seen up and down the Texas coast line. From Beaumont to Brownsville, from Port Author to Corpus, the views are virtually identical.

Twenty thousand deep-draft ships, 100,000 barges and the heart the petrochemical industry in the United States — all of that right outside my window. I quickly realized that what I see is national economic prosperity. I see people working, products being made and sold on a global scale. I realized that this was really important. But, why was it important to me, a career soldier who spent most of his time in the field? As I thought back to my strategic studies at the Army War College, it came to me that economic power, political power and military power are forms of national power available to the President to protect our national interest. The picture was just now starting to come together. As a younger soldier I had stood on the plains in Germany and looked across the old cold war border. Now I realized that as our military power held the old Soviet Union stagnate, it was economic power that bankrupted our cold war

adversary. We won not just because of a strong military, we won because we also had a stronger economy.

The view was getting clearer all the time. I spent most of my military career training, equipping and planning to keep soldiers alive on the battlefield. Now I found myself looking out this window and after a long career, I was starting to understand the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works Program and why I was here. The navigation mission of the Galveston Engineer District, the mission to keep the channels open, is directly tied to the nations economic prosperity, a form of national power that protects our national interests.

Right at that moment a V-shaped formation of brown pelicans, less than 20 feet away, flew by my window and I realized that there is something else out there that I had missed. With all those ships and boats, with all that industry, the environment was flourishing. How could that be? Could there be a balance between economic prosperity and environmental sustainability?

The dredge material coming out of the channel was being

used beneficially. In the Galveston Bay more than 4,000 acres of marsh and wetlands were being created to provide habitat for fish and fowl. Islands that were once lost to subsidence and erosion where now being resurrected to protect the coast, to provide protective habitat for wildlife, and to be enjoyed by boaters. At that very moment I watched a fisherman pull out a flounder from the bay onto the dock as a petroleum barge passed by. Economic prosperity with environmental sustainability, or maybe its just another way to say it's a great place to work and a great place to live? So, is this what right looks like? I think it looks like local communities, industry, states and federal agencies working together to achieve the right balance of economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. I think it looks like groups working together in good faith with the objective to leave the coming generations of Texans with good jobs and a great place to live on the Coastline.