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Participating in ribbon-cutting ceremonies for the new Peter F. Schabarum Interpretive Nature Trail and Campground Area at Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area are (standing clockwise, from left) Jack Frederickson, Ken Kammeyer, Bert Jungmann, Col. Paul W. Taylor, Supervisor Schabarum, Ralph Cryder, and (seated, from left) Richard Chavez, Ross Geiger, and Alice Collins. At right, Marguerite Simms, Center for Independent

Living—San Gabriel Valley, left, and Kathy O'Brien and Dick Stoney of the California Association for the Physically Handicapped, Inc. (CAPI), find the nature trail provides easy access for the disabled and physically handicapped. The Los Angeles District recently received an appreciation award for the Interpretive Nature Trail and Campground Area from CAPI and another service organization, Living Centers.

Recreation facilities dedicated

Santa Fe Dam reaches fourth milestone

The Santa Fe Dam Recreation Area, Irwindale, reached another milestone May 14, when federal and county officials dedicated the newly-completed Phase IV recreation facilities.

Ralph W. Cryder, director, Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department, served as master of ceremonies. Dedicatory remarks were delivered by Col. Paul W. Taylor, district commander; Peter F. Schabarum, chairman, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors; Kenneth K. Kammeyer, president, Kammeyer and Partners, Inc.; Ross Geiger, executive director, Center for Independent Living—San Gabriel Valley, and

Richard Chavez, executive director, Chavez and Associates.

Others participating in the program were Jack Frederickson, coordinator, Personnel Services for Disabled Persons, Los Angeles County; Alice Collins, Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities, and Bert Jungmann, director, Southeast Center for Independent Living.

The dedication represented the completion of an additional \$1.2 million in expanded facilities at the recreation area. The project, which preserves and enhances the natural environment, was made possible through the Corps' Code 710 Recreational Development Pro-

gram. Basically, the program allows the Corps to share all costs for planning, design and construction of public recreation facilities on a 50-50 cost-sharing partnership between the Corps and the County of Los Angeles.

Phase IV features

The Phase IV facilities consist of a 15-acre landscaped area, featuring a 100-person ramada, a 50-person ramada and multi-use court for volleyball, badminton and other games.

Also included in this phase is an interpretive nature trail/campground area that features 10 campsites, and amphitheater, a one-half

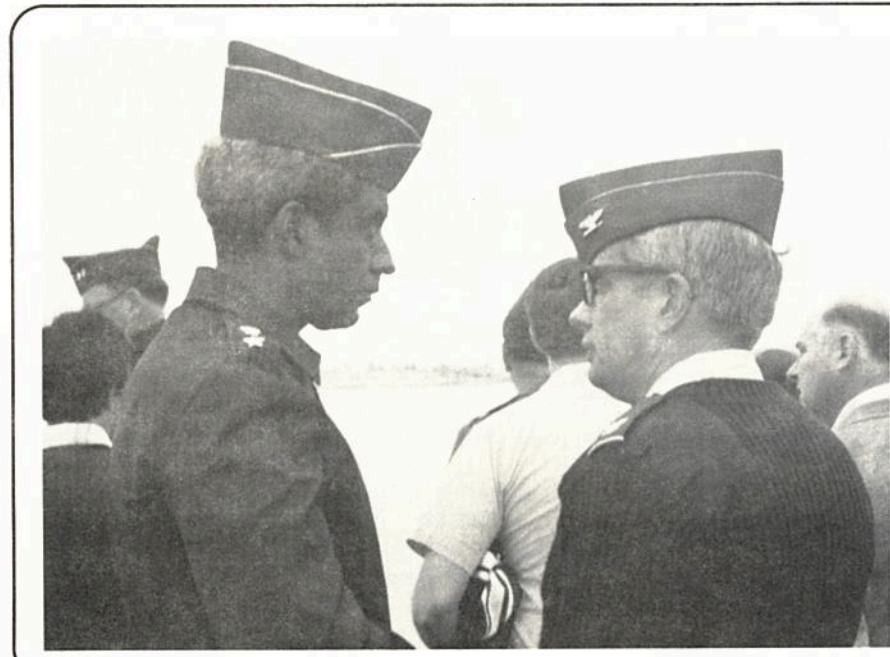
mile asphalt-paved interpretive nature trail, and more parking and restroom facilities.

"All of the facilities in this reservoir area provide easy access for disabled and physically-handicapped persons and were developed in conjunction with associations for disabled persons," Taylor said.

The facilities will be turned over to the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation for operations and maintenance. They also will operate and maintain the Interpretive Nature Trail in concert with the Center for Independent Living—San Gabriel Valley; the Southeast Center for Independent Living, and the California Association of the Physically Handicapped, Inc.

Taylor emphasized that the project would not have been completed "as quickly as it has without the unified efforts of both county and local officials."

He also recognized and commended Ken Kammeyer and Partners, Inc. and A.H.B. Associates, who designed the Phase IV facilities; Moulder Bros, Inc., construction contractor; Frank Qual, Corps construction project engineer; Ruth Chase, project manager, Code 710 Recreational Development Program; Ed Louie, design project manager; Margie Drilling, Environmental Resources Branch; Rick Grover, Recreation Resources Management Section, and Rich Lane, Construction Division.



CERB studies coastal areas

Col. Paul W. Taylor, district commander, right, and MG Hugh G. Robinson, commander, Southwestern Division, participated in a field inspection tour of the San Diego County coastline between Imperial Beach and Oceanside Harbor during the 38th semiannual conference of the Coastal Engineering Research Board, April 13-15, in San Diego. Approximately, 50 Corps engineers and guests attended the conference, hosted by the Los Angeles District. Board members exchanged information on coastal engineering projects and inspected various coastal areas in San Diego.

Perspective

Letter to the Editor

In the March-April 1982 issue of *Newcastle*, an article written by Jim Myrtetus purportedly described a new Merit Promotion policy. I wish to clarify some of the statements made in the commentary, and give credit where credit is due.

The Merit Promotion policy has been changed. The change was to SPLOM 690-1-8, Appendix Q, which is the District Policy on Pay Administration.

The request for change to that policy was made by the Administrative Officer Delores McCree and Assistant Chief Bob Hall, Engineering Division. They suggested the change prior to the specific case referred to by the Union. The Union requested the change while Management was in the process of evaluating the proposed change, and was told so. The proposed change, as initiated by Management, was presented to the Union for comment as required by the Negotiated Agreement. The policy was then placed into effect.

The revision to the policy actually affects very few Merit Promotion actions, at most one or two per year. Employees who accept lower graded positions covered by the Upward Mobility or Career Intern programs have been able to retain

their pay for several years. Reduction-in-force, reclassification, application of new standards, and exercise of reemployment rights are other categories of change to lower grade where the employee normally lost no pay.

The revised policy does not guarantee that an employee selected under a Merit Promotion announcement or career program referral will not lose money. If the position is not an Upward Mobility or Career Intern position, the maximum pay the employee can earn is the step 10 of the lower grade. In my experience, most employees taking lower graded positions under the circumstances covered by the policy change still lose some pay.

I must take issue with Mr. Myrtetus' statement that my personnel specialists "detested enforcing the rule." The Recruitment and Placement Branch Staff deal with their assignments in a professional manner. They don't like or dislike any regulations; they work within them. Mr. Myrtetus' purported description of their feelings is considered demeaning by the staff.

Beth J. Pearce
Chief, Personnel Office

Corps' 207th birthday marks time to restructure missions

This is an exciting time to be a member of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We are first team players in every important initiative to improve and modernize the Army.

Our 207th birthday finds us in the midst of a dynamic restructuring of our missions in response to changing national priorities. It is, in some ways, a time of austerity for us, but in other ways it is a time of relative prosperity and enormous opportunity.

Army engineers can now work within the framework of national support for a strong, modernized, revitalized military. We must take full advantage of that support, to make up for lost time in building and repairing facilities for the training, readiness, and sustainability of our armed forces, both here and abroad. It allows us to concentrate more effort on our critical missions of support to the combined arms team on the battlefield.

Reduced Civil Works' resources pose a challenge for the future, but

we in the Corps are no strangers to challenge. We will require enlightened leadership, selfless dedication to excellence, and thorough-going professionalism by all of us. The Nation will not lose sight of the need for continued public investment in wisely chosen Civil Works' projects which promote future economic growth and reindustrialization.

The Corps of Engineers is a great national asset. There is a real need for the skills and values engineers bring to society: precision of thought, diligent workmanship, and the highest professional standards. Now, more than ever, we must be mindful of the need to produce a product that reinforces the reputation for quality that we have earned over the years, the reputation reflected in the Corps of Engineers' theme for 1982 — Professionalism and Integrity: We are proud to sign our work!

J.K. Bratton
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

"Good Old Days' Picnic" just around the corner

The Los Angeles District will commemorate the Corps' 207th anniversary on Friday, June 18, with a "Good Old Days' Picnic" at Legg Lake Park, Whittier Narrows.

Employees, retirees and guests are invited to participate in the annual Engineer Day picnic.

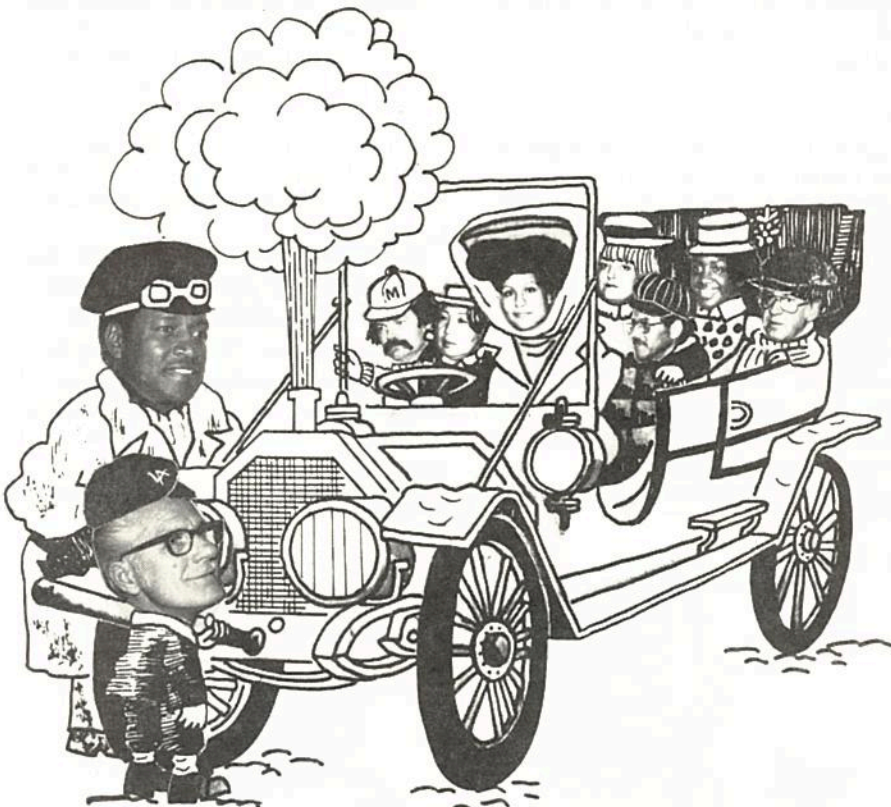
Col. Paul W. Taylor, district commander, will preside over the official program and awards ceremony.

Festivities begin at 9:30 a.m. and include a classic car show, games, dunk tank, dancing, entertainment, prizes, and a variety of sports and games, including horseshoe, volleyball, softball, ten-

nis, and a five-kilometer run.

The official Engineer Day awards' ceremony opens at 12:30 p.m. Chuck Holt, master of ceremonies, will deliver the opening and closing remarks, and Taylor will make the presentation of awards.

Trophies will be awarded for the Most Suggestions Submitted; Most Suggestions Adopted; Most Safety Suggestions Adopted; Equal Employment Opportunity Achievement, and Outstanding Toastmistress and Toastmaster of the Year, respectively. Length-of-Service pins and certificates also will be awarded during the ceremony.



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District Dateline



George Miller of Graffiti Control Systems, Inc. demonstrates product on badly defaced warning sign at Whittier Narrows Dam Recreation Area.

Graffiti cleanup system demonstrated

The Environmental Resources Branch recently sponsored a demonstration of a new system designed to reduce the expense of cleaning up graffiti.

Representatives from the district, along with Los Angeles city and county officials attended the demonstration held May 7, at Whittier Narrows Visitors Center and Recreation Area. Ruth Chase, special projects coordinator, and Ed Louie, landscape architect, arranged the demonstration.

George Miller of Graffiti Control Systems, Inc. showed how a new two-product system can facilitate the removal of such graffiti-making substances as crayon, paint and pen.

Miller described the anti-graffiti coating as two-products — the first is a coating, and the second is a catalyst that is mixed with the coating.

"Any surface covered with the anti-graffiti coating that is defaced can be wiped clean with anti-graffiti remover," Miller said. "The coating covers most all surfaces, from porous brick to enamel-coated walls."

In memoriam

Sympathy is extended to the family of **Lenora Reid**, civil engineering technician, Environmental Resources Branch, who died April 21, following a brief illness.

Ms. Reid began her career with the district in 1974, in the Program Development Branch, where she progressed from engineering aid to civil engineering technician and, finally, to program assistant.

In 1979, she transferred to the Environmental Resources Branch, and last year, she was promoted to the position of civil engineering technician.

Before coming to the Corps, Ms. Reid held several jobs, including distribution clerk for the Post Office in the City of Pasadena, and as an assembler at Teledyne Packard Bell, Los Angeles, and Addmaster Corp., San Gabriel.

Condolences also are extended to **Sam Ackerman**, chief, Program Development, and his family on the death of his wife, **Elda**, and to **Rita Dietrich**, Engineering Division, and her family on the recent death of her husband, **John**.

New Construction chief named

It isn't everyday you meet a man who likes his job.

Jim Fast is an exception. He's been a Corps engineer for 24 years and not only likes his job, but "the new challenges" he's encountered at every turn of his chosen profession.

Currently, as the new chief of Construction Division, Jim tackles "the biggest challenge" of his career.

He is responsible for managing a construction program that will cost in excess of \$175 million this fiscal year, as well as the operations and maintenance of flood control facilities worth approximately \$15 million, and a regulatory program worth \$3 million.

Jim works directly for the district commander and has the support of an interdisciplinary staff of 200 persons, including engineers, technicians, mechanics, clerks and others, to carry out the district's construction mission.

Prior to this assignment, Jim was assistant chief, Construction-Operations Division, at the Sacramento District. His job entailed planning and directing long-range programs for Civil Works and military construction, maintenance and operations of Civil Works, emergency operations management, and EPA construction grants.

Jim began his professional engineering career with the Sacramento District in 1958. He started in the Junior Engineer Rotational Training Program, which gave him "a good insight into the many facets of the Corps' organization."

Over the years, he progressed from mechanical engineer to chief of the Mechanical-Electrical Design Branch; chief of the Technical Review Section, Military Design Branch; assistant chief, Civil Design Branch, and finally, chief of the Construction Branch.

With the exception of a two-year overseas assignment as a mechanical engineer with the Corps' Mediterranean Division in Italy, Jim's entire career, until the present, was spent with the Sacramento District.

A licensed professional engineer in the State of California, Jim received his B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Nevada at Reno. He served in the military



The Los Angeles District presents "plenty of challenges" for Jim Fast, new chief, Construction Division.

both on active duty and as a 10-year reservist with the 381st Engineer Group, Sacramento.

Jim and his wife, Joyce, also raise Suffolk sheep on their ranch 40 miles outside of Sacramento.

"If this challenging position with the Los Angeles District hadn't come along, we would have kept our ranch-style life and stayed with the Sacramento District," Jim said. Currently, his wife is managing the ranch while Jim searches for a new residence for the couple here in the southland.

"Now that our three daughters are grown," Jim said, "we should have more time for some of our other outdoor interests — power boating, waterskiing, and golf."

District stresses vandalism prevention

The Los Angeles District has initiated a public awareness program aimed at lowering the incidence of vandalism at Corps project sites, Sidney Chriqui, chief, Office of Administrative Services, announced.

The campaign officially began May 4, the start of Vandalism Prevention Week, and will continue "throughout" the rest of the year.

"Incidents of vandalism at Corps project sites have been on the increase," Chriqui said. "Acts of vandalism, such as defacement of property, graffiti, broken windows, and damaged fences, are a costly problem. Although, the cost nationwide cannot be estimated with any accuracy, the loss is thought to be at least \$1 billion annually."

Individual acts of vandalism may appear insignificant, Chriqui noted, but their "cumulative effect" is very costly in terms of dollars spent in repair and in inconvenience and disruption to users.

The district's educational program seeks to actively involve the public in discouraging vandalism and in reporting incidents to the proper authorities, Chriqui said.

Some approaches that can be used to counterattack vandalism are:

- Within your neighborhoods, keep a careful watch on suspicious activities and/or acts of mischievous destruction and report them immediately to your local Police Department.

- Within the district, become more aware of the security of Corps vehicles. Keep them locked when not in use and avoid parking them in neighborhoods where a high incidence of crime exists. At Corps sites, when possible, control the access of personnel into fenced areas and post warning signs to discourage vandals.

- Engineers can begin to design federal facilities that discourage vandalism. This can be achieved by reducing the amount of glass area; by utilizing damage-resistant glazing materials; by eliminating unnecessary decorative materials, and/or use of metal which will resist graffiti, and by placing burglar systems in sensitive areas.

District Shorts

Darmstadt beckons Larry Hawthorne

Larry Hawthorne, assistant chief, Public Affairs Office, left the district in May to accept a three-year position as public affairs officer, U.S. Army Military Community, in Darmstadt, Germany.

Hawthorne, accompanied by his wife, Grace, and four-year-old daughter, departed for his new overseas assignment on Tuesday, May 25.

Before leaving the district, Hawthorne said that he has "truly enjoyed a job" that has provided him the opportunity to work with most members of the Los Angeles District.

"It has been a rewarding experience since I first arrived in the district in December 1973," he said. "I have every intention of returning to the district and the Corps when my three-year European tour is complete. Auf Wiedersehen!"

Enjoy safe boating!

"Wear Your Life Preserver — A Friend for Life!" is the theme of National Safe Boating Week, June 6-12.

The National Safe Boating Council, Inc., sponsors the annual campaign to remind the public that recreational boating is a fun sport when it is done safely. The Council urges you to improve your basic boating skills.

Free courses are given by Coast Guard auxiliaries, state agencies and the Red Cross. For information, call your nearest Coast Guard station or send a post card to Boating Safety, U.S. Coast Guard, Washington, D.C. 20590.



SAME to end year with installation ball

The Los Angeles Post, Society of American Military Engineers, will end its year with a dinner-dance and installation of officers on Saturday, June 12.

The installation ball will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the U.S. Air Force Officers Club, 2400 E. El Segundo Blvd., El Segundo. Reservations at \$12.50 per person are necessary and may be obtained by calling Eva Walker, Ext. 5493, or Don Burke, (714) 641-8355.

Ted Phillips recruited for Gallant Eagle '82

Ted Phillips, Reproduction Branch, recently participated in the United States Readiness Command's Joint Military exercise, "Gallant Eagle '82," at Fort Irwin, Ca.

SSG Phillips is assigned to the 302nd Public Affairs Detachment, 63rd Army Reserve Command, Los Angeles. Approximately 25,000 soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen were involved in the desert combat exercise, Phillips said.

Golf particulars

The Los Angeles District Golf Club will tee-off at 9 a.m. Saturday, June 26, at Los Verdes Golf Course, 7000 W. Los Verdes Dr., Rancho Palos Verdes, Ca.

Winners of the May 15 tournament held at Hansen Dam Course are Paul Berger, Jerry McGee, Kip Fisher, and Tad Matsuoka, Flight A; Tad Ouchi, Paul Gaffney, Manny Mares and Ted Carr, Flight B; and Mel Ternak, Tom Sage, Fred Lessing and Jack Hughes, Flight C.

Ternak received a trophy for low net. The Match Play results were McGee over Neil MacDougall, 5 to 3; Mel Anderson over Tony Ananea, 4 to 2; Fisher over Leo Gallegos, 3 to 1; Larry Nishihara over Carr, 5 to 2, and Frank Hubel and Bill Halczak, tied.

Ted Masigat says marriage vows

Theodore Masigat, Regulatory Branch, and Edith Buenaobra were united in marriage on Saturday, May 1, in a nuptial mass at Our Mother of Good Council Church, Los Angeles.

Microcomputer users invited to form club

Owners and potential owners of microcomputers are invited to contact Glenn Emigh, Ext 2934.

He would like to assess interest in forming a Corps microcomputer user's club or interest group.

Ida Simms discusses Corps labor policies

Ida Simms, Office of Counsel, was a guest speaker at the southern joint conference of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers on Saturday, May 22, in San Diego.

She spoke on "The Construction Mission of the Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District" and the prevailing wages contractors are required to pay to laborers and mechanics performing work under Corps construction contracts.

Bud Anderson tapped for survey committee

Bud Anderson, chief, Contract Survey Unit, Geotechnical Branch, is the newly-elected chairman of the Resource Management Committee for the Fiscal Year 1985 Survey Requirements Conference.

The conference will bring together management personnel in survey, real estate, procurement and engineering in an effort to investigate Corps survey requirements and problems.

Anderson and Earl Bratcher, chief, Survey Section, represented the district at the last Survey Requirements Conference held in February in Jacksonville, Fla.

Dates to remember

- May 15
Armed Forces Day
- May 31
Memorial Day
- June 14
Flag Day
- July 4
Independence Day



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