Wilmington District News

Volume 26 • Number 10 November/December 2005

AISES Job Fair Comes to NC

(pages 8, 9)

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Wilmington District News is an unofficial publication authorized under the AR 360-1. It is published monthly by U.S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington, reproduced, and circulated through distribution to CESAW employees. Submission of articles, photos, letters, and graphic arts of interest to the general readership is encouraged. Letters to the editor are welcome. All manuscripts are subject to editing and rewriting prior to publication. Deadline for submission of copy is the eighth of each month. All photos are official U.S. Army photos unless otherwise stated. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Corps of Engineers or the Department of the Army. Printed circulation: 750.

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On the Cover:
Wilmington District's Dan Emerson (right) of Coastal Hydrolics and Hydrology explains a flood plain simulator to two Native American students at the American Indian in Science and Engineering Society (AISES) job fair in Charlotte. Dan is a member of both Dine (Navaho) and Skokomish Nations.

Up Front

Some good 'resolutions' for our Fiscal New Year

COL John Pulliam, Jr.

Seems like this holiday season braids old and new themes together even more dramatically than usual.

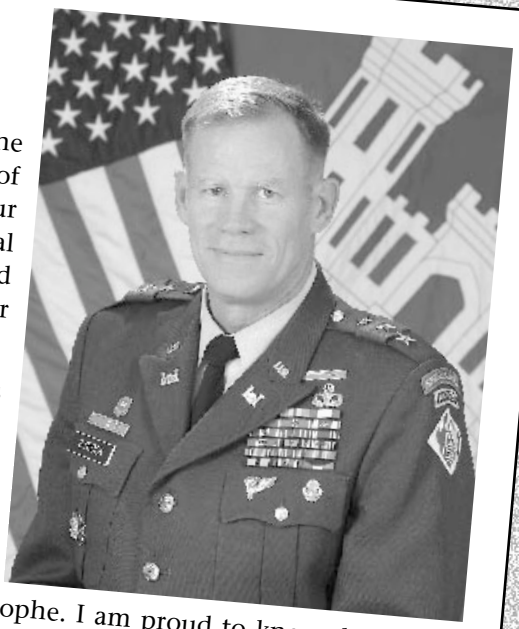
Ringing out the old year? We are savoring powerful memories and appreciation for many District team members who are summing up valuable careers and turning to bright new opportunities. We're looking back on weeks and even months of hard work and dedication in response to an especially destructive hurricane season. We're adding up what we were able to do in FY 2005, and realizing that with help from sponsors, our colleagues from around the Corps, and elected officials, we have been able to complete more work than we would have expected at the beginning of the year. Who'd have thought we could move so much water? Who would have hoped that we could dredge those inlets? Did we really think we'd be moving so much riverbank in Roanoke? Great accomplishments!

Ringing in the New Year! Some of the many 2005-2006 departures will create opportunities in the District and around the nation. We'll benefit by opening ourselves up to possibilities for new kinds of work and new working relationships! It's exciting to witness the commitment our customers and stakeholders invest in our national infrastructure. Their willingness to be creative and explore ways to work with us to maintain these national assets should inspire us to think out of the box too. Major projects like the Wilmington Harbor Project and the Roanoke Flood Reduction Project have continued to earn the respect and support of Congress. We are making the first steps toward major changes in our personnel system, and preparing for changes in our Information Management and Logistics support areas. Some of this brings uncertainty.

Here's what makes me sure that 2006 promises to be another great year: All of you, the way you care about and for each other, your ability to continually come up with new solutions, and the great work you do every day. The only thing I will ask you is to keep up the wonderful performances you've already proven yourselves by, and to continue to take care of and be respectful and supportive of one another as well as our regional teammates, partners, customers and others who depend on us.

So be safe, enjoy the holidays with your family and friends, take time over the next few weeks to get rested and restored, and be ready to jump in to the New Year refreshed!

Corps family,



As I reflect on the events of 2005, I am inspired and gratified by the contributions made at all levels throughout the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The past year has been extremely busy as you performed our daily work, supported the Global War on Terror, and responded to natural disasters. I don't have to tell you how all of this work directly contributed to our national security, energized our economy and enhanced our environment.

From the Indian Ocean tsunami that hit on 26 December, to hurricanes Dennis, Katrina, Rita, and Wilma, and the Pakistan earthquake, you rapidly and effectively responded as our nation and the world was challenged.

We can count our blessings and be thankful that although many Corps employees lost their homes from Hurricane Katrina, none of our people were lost. The Corps family was quick to respond to this national catastrophe. I am proud to know that every district, division, center, lab, and our headquarters sent people forward to help with the massive response. Many retired employees returned to help. And employees who remained behind took on additional duties for deployed coworkers. Clearly, selfless service remains the hallmark of the Corps of Engineers. It is important to remember that many of our Federal partners also supported our efforts. Their response also speaks to their sense of service. It also speaks to the strength of our relationships.

Throughout 2005 there were many other accomplishments of note:

You have contributed significantly to the well-being of our nation and the U.S. Armed Forces through our military programs, civil works and research and development missions.

In Iraq, the Gulf Region Division has made outstanding contributions in support of the Global War on Terror. About 3,000 projects were started and 2,000 have been completed.

In Afghanistan, the great work being performed on facilities and infrastructure projects has contributed to that nation's stability and security.

And on the Corps of Engineers' birthday, we released an updated vision and campaign plan that will help keep us moving in the right direction.

With so much going on, it is impressive that we also closed out the year just as if it were business as usual. I truly appreciate those of you who worked late hours to ensure a successful close out on 30 September. It is a significant accomplishment and something to celebrate.

Over the next year, and the next several years, we will continue to be very busy. With so much going on in the Corps and around the world, it is easy to feel strained. Remember to take care of each other and yourself.

As you enjoy time with your family and friends, I ask that you remember those who are still in harm's way in Afghanistan and Iraq. Let's keep them in our hearts and minds.

Be safe and have fun. I have great pride and confidence in our team and look forward to what we will accomplish in 2006. Happy Holidays!

Essayons!

CARL A. STROCK
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding
Relevant, Ready, Responsive, Reliable

Regionalizing Teams See Steep Learning Curve, Future Benefits

By Penny Schmitt

South Atlantic Division team members home-based in Wilmington have been working full speed ahead to implement regionalization.

How does the process look to these folks, who used to be 'dedicated Wilmington District team members' and now are working with regional teams, some based in and officially assigned to another district?

Wilmington's Contracting, Engineering, and Planning folks all became part of regional operations on the first of October with the new fiscal year. Contracting personnel are now officially Savannah District Employees. Planning and Engineering have added people from Charleston to their rosters.

Are there "winners and losers" in this process? Some may temporarily feel the loss of their own territory, but the potential gains are clear. "The mechanical things are taking up a lot of time right now," said Coleman Long.

Sherrel Bunn, team leader in Wilmington for the Savannah-based regional contracting team agreed. If there's a frustration expressed by all, it's that steep learning curve and the one-time effort it takes to make systems work properly. "We have had to completely re-create contract documentation in Savannah's contracting system," Bunn said. "There was no other way to do it. In some cases, it took more than two full work days to re-enter a single contract's documentation!" On a positive note, everyone also agrees that this is a short-term issue.

"Theses mechanical items are not the biggest challenge," said Chief of Planning, Coleman Long.

"The big challenge is the culture change and relationship building piece. There's just no quick fix to building good working relationships. It has to be done one week, one meeting, one phone call at a time."

To that end, all the team leaders talked about making sure that teams shared plenty of face-to-face time with one another. Back-and-forth travel, video teleconferences, and regular conference calls are high on everyone's list of activities that help to forge new alliances and solidify relationships. "Two things are very important to making this work," Long said. "We need to quickly realize some benefits, and inclusiveness is very important. We're working hard to make sure that everyone knows they're full partners in the process."

> *"There's just no quick fix to building good working relationships. It has to be done one week, one meeting, one phone call at a time."*
>
> *– Coleman Long*

Advantages are emerging.

"Regional rates are affording us the opportunity to do a lot of things consistently across the region" says Chief of Engineering Wayne Bissette. In the long run, that consistency makes all the participating districts a more attractive option to customers, who don't face the confusing and sometimes frustrating feeling that their work might be accomplished more cheaply, or that they don't have access to the best processes and people.

Added depth and skills in the newly joint work forces is another clear benefit, Bissette said. "By ourselves, no district had as much expertise as we have working together."

Sherrel Bunn says, it is new territory to be a team leader for Savannah Contracting rather than the Chief of Contracting for Wilmington District. Bunn continues to be the Contracting Business Advisor to the Wilmington District Commander, and is excited that the new reach of the contracting team into military construction contracts will add skills and scope to her team's expertise.'"We are meeting often, sharing processes and ideas and merging quickly into a strong regional contracting TEAM" she said.

Stay tuned to learn how the three new regional teams work through their first year together. Sounds like the do-over part is soon going to wrap up, and new processes will begin to take hold. We all appreciate the pioneer spirit of our new regional teams!

Dredging Update: Fewer Dollars, But Work Still Available

Despite limited funding the Wilmington District is busy dredging waterways and inlets in North Carolina, and helping keep the Wilmington Harbor channel clear along Anchorage Basin. In places like Manteo, for example, where commercial fishermen depend on the federal navigation channels, recent dredging there has given them a sense of security.

(FILE PHOTO)

The Dredge vessel Merrit spews sand from a dredging operation at Carolina Beach Inlet.

"As far as the users are concerned they're happy that we've done the work," said Director of Navigation Howard Varnam. "I talked with a fisherman in Wanchese who said that when it comes to fishing, the navigation channel at Oregon Inlet is probably the best that it's been in over a year. So they're very happy with the results that we were able to attain."

Varnam said the increase in funds this fiscal year compared to FY 05 has been greatly needed and appreciated. Funded areas include Carolina Beach, Lockwoods Folly, Topsail and New River Inlets. Bogue Inlet received no funding this fiscal year. Varnam stated that the area in most need of dredging is at New River.

"So far we haven't heard of any complaints from users at Carolina Beach, Lockwoods Folly or Topsail. We are receiving complaints from the users at New River at Cedar Bush Cut. That has a controlling depth of two feet. When the Dredge Fry gets back to work in January, New River will probably be one of her first assignments."

The major cause for much of the shoaling came during Hurricane Ophelia. Varnam said the District has asked for supplemental funds to remove Ophelia-caused sand. The District hopes those supplemental funds are approved, although it will take a lot of coordination with the Contracting and Environmental sections in a short amount of time.

"My concern right now is if we get the funds we might not have enough time to even get all the dredging done. We might have more than we can do. In order to minimize any ill effect to the environment such as colonial nesting birds and sea turtles. Coordination is going to be very quick."

Outside of hurricane-induced shoaling, Varnam said that he hopes Mother Nature will be cooperative in the coming year to lessen the chances of shoaling and to make it easier for vessels to dredge.

"If we can get good weather we should be able to maintain the coastal inlets that are funded for the remainder of this fiscal year and keep those inlets open. And we hope we can keep the Coast Guard happy from not having to remove navigation aids. Fortunately, we're not at the point we were last year at this time when the Coast Guard removed navigation aids from certain areas and wanted to remove them from inlets at Lockwoods Folly, New River, Carolina Beach, and Topsail. Presently, we're surveying all of the coastal inlets to provide that information to the Coast Guard so they can move the navigation aids around if they need to."

In areas where dredging's not an option, the District's Navigation Branch is being proactive by getting as much survey information as possible to the public. Varnam said the Navigation Homepage is getting several hits a day from users who want or need immediate information.

"The biggest plus that we have going right now, especially at the area office we opened at Manteo, is that the users are relying on survey information from our website. As soon as the survey is completed we get it processed, get it on our website, and those users are able to download the information. We're providing deep water waypoints because in some cases there is deeper water outside of the federal channel. By us doing the wide coverage surveys and putting waypoints outside of the channel boaters are able to navigate. It's a good, cheap answer to navigation problems."

Wallace Sees Changing Lives for Afghan Women

By Nancy Wallace

(PHOTOS COURTESY NANCY WALLACE)

A corps employee (in uniform) does quality assurance at the women's hospital.

My story is like most people who come to Afghanistan. In some small way, I wanted to make a difference by aiding in the rebuilding of the Afghan's lives. One aspect of that new beginning was women's health issues and the improvement of the infant mortality rate, which is one of the highest in the world (147 deaths for every 1,000 live births). Any woman who has ever cared for a precious life can empathize with the plight of the Afghan woman. The children here are threatened with adversities that can take their lives all too soon. It's something most American parents cannot imagine. It is heartbreaking to know that many of the expectant mothers in Afghanistan will never know the joy of motherhood, which is why I was glad to be a part of Kabul's, Rabia-E-Balkhi Women's Hospital project in any way that I could. New incubators were sent to the neonatal unit at the hospital. With the Taliban gone, the ability of Afghan women to be a productive part of society is blooming. The women who work at Kabul's only hospital for women are some of the most hard working and dedicated people I got to know. They worked day in and day out in such harsh conditions yet always had a smile.

The Afghan people have worked so hard to maintain what little functionality they have in this hospital facility. It is truly remarkable. I now have a newfound respect for old-fashioned ingenuity. For instance, in the daytime something as simple as keeping the lights off and not powering up the radiology department until absolutely needed protects the 30-year-old electrical boards they have from burning out. I am blessed knowing that the work we do here immediately impacts the lives of the Afghan people. It was an honor to be able to be a part of this good work the Corps is doing to help give Afghans a better life.

> "With the Taliban gone, the ability of Afghan women to be a productive part of society is blooming."

Contractors build new water lines to the hospital.

Nancy Wallace.

Deployment Brings Sense of Purpose, Leadership Skills to Volunteer

Rosemary Burke has always had a strong desire to help those in need. After Hurricane Katrina hit she knew that the time was right to give to those who lost all or nearly everything. In early October, she headed out for a 45-day deployment to the Gulf Coast to help with hurricane recovery. Having watched TV news reports during the aftermath of Katrina, she said she got a direct dose of reality when first entering damaged areas.

"Watching it at home was scary, but getting down there and talking to people and seeing it up close…it's not real until you really do see it," she explained. ""You see people's belongings strewn everywhere, and blocks and blocks of debris fields."

Scenes like this grounded boat were everywhere, something that took Burke a while to get used to.

Burke's job was to provide quality assurance for the Blue Roof mission. Her first few days on the job took her to numerous homes that needed immediate repair. What caught her off guard was seeing so much devastation all at once. "I just got to thinking that this could happen in Wilmington, and I wondered what it would be like to be one of the hurricane victims and have everything that you've worked for and all of your belongings destroyed."

Burke quickly set aside her emotions and concentrated on helping hurricane victims get temporary roofs. Having learned the basics of quality assurance by video before she left Wilmington, she found herself immersed in on-the-job training and becoming an instant subject matter expert. And she also learned how to manage her newly found "clout" as the person in charge. "Well, I had some really good crews in the beginning," she explained. ""They were so good that I probably didn't even have to inspect their work. But I worked with crews that were not good at all who tried to make up their own rules. So, there were several roofs I made those contractors go back to finish their work."

SAD's Kevin Pace presents Rosemary Burke with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Burke said the pace of her job was more than what she has ever experienced. Sitting in a cubicle crunching numbers as an economist is 180 degrees from what she did on the job doing QA. "Everything was immediate down there…'this house needs a tarp now!' It was easy to get lost in what you were doing because everything was more than twice the speed of what I normally do at the District."

One thing that Burke discovered during her deployment was that it awakened a part of her that she didn't know existed. It was an education that she could never get from a book. "One of the most valuable things I was able to do was to not only train people to do roofing estimates and quality assurance, but manage them as well. I also managed got to help manage the people who did the quality assurance jobs. I felt that I was very well respected because people were calling me asking for advice and technical expertise. The fact that people were coming to me was awesome! It really gave me confidence in knowing I could do that kind of job really well. I didn't know I could do such a good job at something that I was thrown into, especially under emergency conditions."

Career Fair Draws USACE Awareness to Native American Students

Story and photos by Hank Heusinkveld

Portland District member Kimberley Oldham has been a Corps of Engineers employee for 11 years. A member of the Muscogee Creek/Yuchi Nation, she first heard about the Corps as a student through the Minority Engineering Office at the University of Oklahoma. A Tulsa District Human Resources specialist contacted her and told her there was a job opening and asked her to apply.

"My first question was 'who is the Corps of Engineers?'," she said. "So, I think it's important to talk about what we do. You hear that a lot; people come looking for work with the Corps, but they don't know much about it."

Oldham was part of a Corps recruiting and public outreach team in Charlotte during the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) National Career Fair November 3-5. As Project Manager for the AISES recruitment effort, Oldham said the Corps team's goal was to attract potential Native American employees and make them more aware of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). According to USACE Human Resource Director Anthony Johnson, students attending the fair responded to the Corps target message of "pride in public service" and were interested in the engineering side of the house, but more so in the Corps' environmental initiatives.

"We received several resumes, mostly in the environmental field and biological field," he said. "We have kids interested in research which has been different than in the past. The Corps of Engineers has a large research and development area with several different laboratories."

(HEUSINKVELD PHOTO)

Kimberley Oldham, Project Manager for the AISES Career Fair, talks with a student.

USACE played a large role at the career fair as one of the main sponsors. Its ties to AISES go back to 2002 when former Chief of Engineers LTG Robert Flowers signed a partnership agreement and Memorandum of Understanding with the organization. AISES was founded in 1977 by American Indian scientists, engineers and educators. Alarmed at high dropout rates and low college enrollment and graduation rates of Native Americans, a group of Native professionals created the organization to identify and remove barriers to aca-

demic success for students. Oldham, a member of AISES and a USACE professional, said that the Corps can only benefit by targeting Native Americans, who bring not only engineering or environmental expertise to the Corps, but an acute understanding of native American culture.

"The Corps is required to work with tribes as sovereign nations, and there's sometimes a misunderstanding because people are unaware of this cultural distinction and the legalities of it," she explained. "So, one of the functions that I've worked in as a tribal liaison and as a Native person is trying to educate people. One of the ways we make the Corps more aware is to bring in Native students and AISES representatives so that they can help with projects that might impact a tribal government. And then, of course, we always need a capable workforce. We need engineers, we need scientists and it doesn't matter who they are. This is a career fair that brings specific skill sets to the table."

Oldham added that Native American culture fits in directly with the Corps Environmental Operating Principles and offers a realistic view of what engineering can and can't do.

"We believe in balance. I think a lot of biologists don't concentrate enough on that. They want optimum conditions every day. I think that within the sciences there needs to be balance. There never should be any extreme. Even in engineering anybody who has respect for the earth knows that there isn't anything that you can design that Mother Nature can't destroy. It's unrealistic. There needs to be respect for the elements."

We have kids interested in research which has been different than in the past. The Corps of Engineers has a large research and development area with several different laboratories.

Overall, Johnson said the career fair was successful. With ideas about the Corps clarified, he said the Corps was as highly regarded as major corporations, and received some solid resumes from potential job candidates.

"If we get one employee who comes to the Corps and stays with us for three to five years then it's worth it. We hired two Native Americans last year. This year those two answered the call to duty and they're currently deployed; one to Katrina relief and the other to Iraq."

Now that's pride in public service!

(HEUSINKVELD PHOTO)

Two interested students chat with Oldham (left) about possible careers in environmental science.

Blazing Trails in Blaze Orange - Women in the Woods

Story and photos by Sherrie Storm, Park Ranger, JH Kerr

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven…" (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8). No words are taken more to heart than by the hunter, and 'tis the season on white tailed deer.

While hunting historically has been thought of as an activity in which men participated, there are women who take the sport just as seriously. Kerr Park Rangers Shannon Crews and Alyson Parker are two such women, who also happen to work in a predominately male-dominated occupation.

Shannon Crews and Alyson Parker literally live their lives in the woods. They grew up at opposite ends of Mecklenburg County, VA and spent their early years hunting and fishing with their parents and friends. This gave them a love and appreciation of nature and the outdoors that brought them to work for the Corps of Engineers.

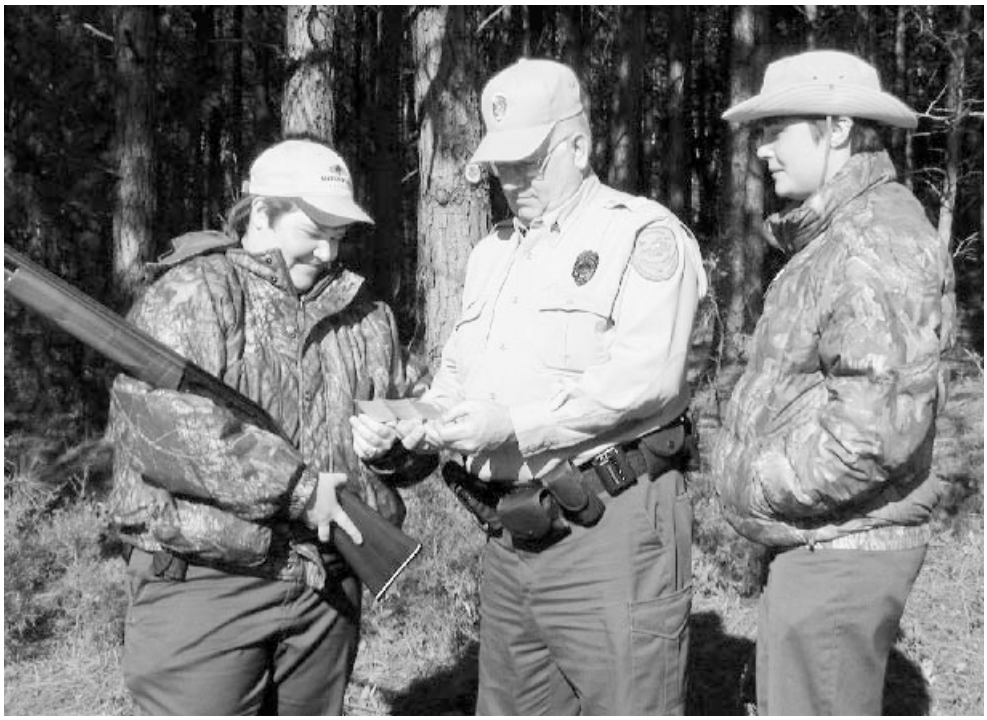
Both Crews and Parker began as summer hires in the maintenance department at Kerr, later becoming park ranger co-op students. Hired as permanent rangers—Crews in 2000 and Parker in 2002, their careers now take them to remote locations on any of the 800 miles of lake shoreline as rangers in charge of issuing land use permits and erosion control projects to adjacent property owners.

During time-off, they spend hours around the lake kayaking, hiking, and camping. And both are avid hunters.

"I shot my first 12-point buck Saturday!" exclaimed Crews. "This is a welcome addition to my freezer."

"Food is my primary reason for hunting," explained Parker. "I have a rule—you kill it, you eat it."

"Some people don't understand hunting at all," said Crews. "The misperception that we just go out anytime and anywhere and shoot things is totally false. First, you have to understand that there are hunting laws and they are very specific for each animal in each state and each county in that state, at very specific dates of the year", explained Crews.



(SHERRIE STORM PHOTO)

Sgt. Alan Clark, Virginia Department of Fish and Game warden, checks the hunting license of Shannon Crews while Alyson Parker looks on. Note that all parties are wearing "Blaze Orange"in accordance with the law.

In both Virginia and North Carolina, all hunters must have a license to hunt, and purchase additional ones depending on the type of game hunted. Hunters who have never been licensed must take an approved hunter education course prior to getting a license. Hunting laws are also specific to what types of weapons can be used, when they can be used, and for what purpose. The laws are specific even to what gender can be hunted.**

(FILE PHOTO)

At Kerr (Buggs Island*), the hunter must become familiar with laws in both Virginia and North Carolina since the public lands open for hunting around the reservoir lie in both states.

For instance, in 2005-2006 season bucks (male deer) may be hunted in the eastern section of Virginia (wherein lies Kerr) with a firearm (rifle, minimum .23 caliber or shotgun, not larger than 10 gauge, plugged so that the gun cannot hold more than 3 shells, with a barrel a minimum of 18 inches) from November 19 to January 7.

**All hunting laws are enforced by game wardens from the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries or the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. Corps Park Rangers are prohibited by regulation from enforcing game laws, although all

Corps lands, unless posted otherwise, are open to the general public for hunting.

Besides knowing the laws about hunting, safety is the most important consideration. With 15 years of experience behind her, Crews had some excellent advice: "Blaze orange is the law. It keeps us hunters alive and safe from other hunters. If you are going to be in the woods during hunting season, wear blaze orange".

The blaze orange requirements state: "When hunting any game species during the firearms deer season, every hunter or person accompanying a hunter shall wear a blaze orange upper body clothing that is visible from 360 degrees or display at least 100 square inches of solid blaze orange material at shoulder level within body reach and visible from 360 degrees."**

"Bird watching and hiking are great sports, but remember to 'see and be seen' by hunters out there", said Parker. "If you are going to be in the woods during firearms season, try to dress like a pumpkin", Parker chuckled. "Deer are colorblind. You are dressing for those hunters out there that may wrongly shoot at noise."

According to Virginia Game Warden Alan Clark, the most common hunting accident in the 2003-2004 season was people being mistaken for game. "There were eight accidents of this type statewide", said Clark. "One of the first laws of shooting is to identify your target. Had this been done, these accidents would have been prevented".

Another lesson that Crews and Parker have learned is to always tell someone where you will be and when you plan to return. This holds true for every adventure into the outdoors, whether hunting, hiking, boating or fishing.

"Accidents do happen", said Crews. "Remember, 'Swim with a Buddy—Hunt with a Buddy".

Now, back to the 12-point buck…what did Crews do with it once she had it down?

"Game must be field dressed to avoid spoiling the meat," she explained, "and it must be done quickly". After removing all the internal organs, she skinned the buck and then cut it into quarters to make it easier to carry out of the woods.

"When I got it home, we cut it up for steaks and roasts, and some gets made into sausage and ground meat. After aging it for five to seven days, it goes into the freezer.

"It tastes very much like beef", said Parker. "Venison has almost no fat content so it is also very healthy food".

Both game departments in Virginia and North Carolina have programs designed specifically for women who want to expand their knowledge or start from the beginning on becoming an outdoor enthusiast. For more information on "Becoming an Outdoors-Woman" Workshops visit the following websites:

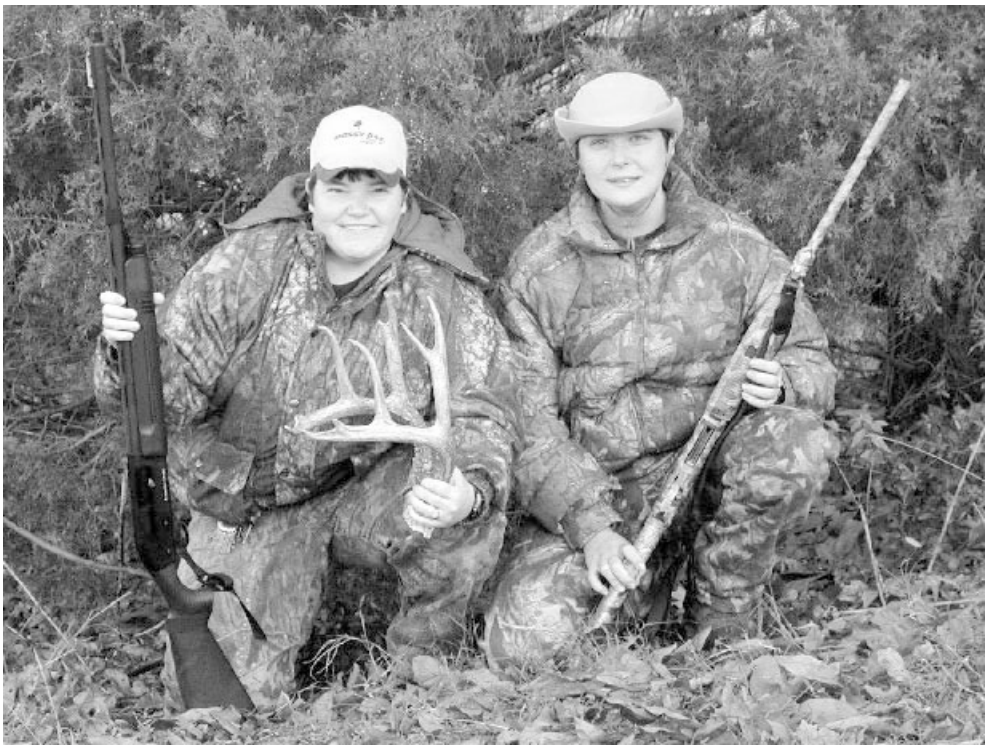
In NC: http://www.ncwildlife.org/fs_index_08_education.htm

In VA: http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/events/index.asp

See page 14 for a Venison Stew recipe. (The reader may substitute beef for venison if unavailable.)

**In Virginia, House Joint Resolution No. 51, dated 11 Feb 1952, mandated that the name of the lake is "Buggs Island", not Kerr. Therefore, all violations written by state game wardens and other law enforcement personnel refer to that name. A forthcoming article will address this interesting historical footnote of contention between NC and Va.*

***Please visit www.dgif.virginia.gov/ and www.ncwildlife.org/ for more information on hunting safety, laws, and wildlife.*



Shannon and Alyson, posing here with a whitetail rack, "live their lives in the woods."

SAD Commander Presents Awards, Citations During Town Hall Meeting

Regionalization and competitive sourcing were at the top of the agenda during Brigadier General Michael Walsh's visit to the Wilmington District on 14 December. Despite concerns over changes that are happening now and that are on the horizon, he reassured team members that the outlook is good for the Wilmington District, the South Atlantic Division and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. And while he was here he presented numerous awards and letters of appreciation to District members who gave their all during a relentless season of hurricanes, participated in nation building in Iraq and Afghanistan or accomplished personal and professional achievements to better themselves and the Corps of Engineers.

Leadership Development Program

Bob Finch

Justin McCorcle

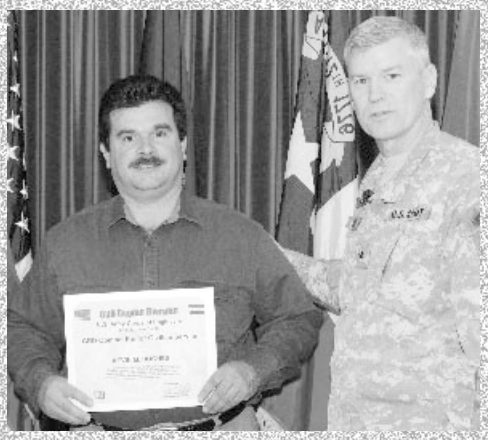
Virginia Rynk

Graduate certificates for the Leadership Development Program were presented to Bob Finch, Justin McCorcle and Virginia Rynk.

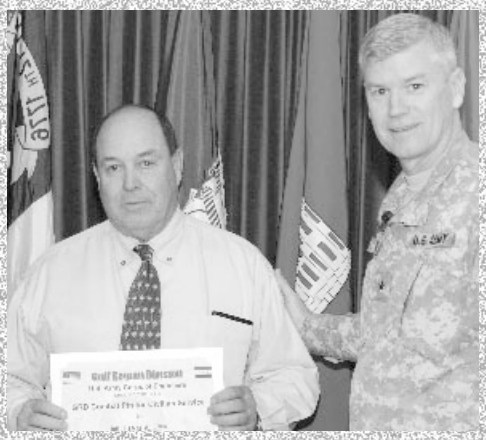
LTC Bud Jones received the Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM) for exceptional meritorious service and exceptional leadership demonstrated during the 2004 Hurricane Season.

Robert Dennis, Nancy Wallace and Justin Arnette received citations for their service in the Afghanistan Engineer District.

GRD Combat Pin for Civilian Service



Kevin Hughes



Billy Lee

The following District members received the Gulf Region Division Combat Pin for selfless service in GRD: Robert Dennis, Kevin Hughes, Billy Lee, Hank Maser, Donald Peterson, Tara Williams and Hassan Pourtahari.

National Water Mission

Nancy Raynor

Jocelyn Collins

Ben Lackey

Sherrel Bunn, Ken Jolly, Ben Lackey, Jocelyn Collins, Diane Lastinger and Nancy Raynor were recognized for their exceptional service and dedication to duty during Hurricane Season 2005.

Diane Lastinger

Ken Jolly

The Chief Financial Officer's Act (CFO) Project Delivery Team

Carolyn Brock

Anita Bissette

Blair Boyd

Melissa Blackburn-Walton

Donald Peterson

Citations were given for exceptional service and dedication to duty during the period 13 June through 29 October the Chief Financial Officer's Act (CFO) Project Delivery Team: Anita Bissette, Donald Peterson, Carolyn Brock, Casey Newman, Melissa Blackburn-Walton and Blair Boyd.

Jan Wutkowski

Website Highlights

DEFEND AMERICA
http://defendamerica.mil/index.html

The Department of Defense News About the War on Terrorism website features sections such as Top News (about Iraq and Afghanistan), On the Ground (human interest stories), Casualties, as well as linking other pages like Call to Action, Why I Serve, Request a Defense Dept. Speaker, and Fallen Warriors. Users can also access the Multimedia pages and an archive of past editions of Defend America.

CONGRESSIONAL DOCUMENTS
http://www.gpoaccess.gov/serialset/cdocuments/index.html

Website is a searchable database of documents originating in congressional committees "and cover a wide variety of topics and may include reports of executive departments and independent organizations, reports of special investigations made for Congress, and annual reports of non-governmental organizations." Documents are available from the 104th Congress (1995-96) to the present.

Texas Venison Stew

(from article on pages 10-11)

2 pounds venison, cubed	1/2 cup onion, chopped
3 Tbsp worchestershire sauce	1/4 cup oil
2 tsp crushed red pepper	1 can stewed red ripe tomatoes
2 tsp broiled steak seasoning	1/2 cup green pepper, chopped
1-1/2 tsp instant onion powder	1 stick butter
1-1/2 tsp instant garlic powder	1 cup fresh mushrooms, sliced
Salt & pepper	

Place first ingredients in large bowl. Add salt and pepper. Mix well and allow to marinate 30 minutes.

Saute the meat mixture and onion in oil.

Over medium heat add tomatoes, green pepper and butter. Allow to simmer (covered) for at least 30 minutes.

Add mushrooms and cook for 10 minutes more.

Serve over cooked noodles. Makes 4 servings.

*Per serving: 425 cal; 20 g fat; 53 g protein; 6 g carbohydrates; 1g dietary fiber; 193 mg cholesterol; 232 mg sodium.

WINDandSEA: the Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences Internet Guide
http://www.lib.noaa.gov/docs/windandsea.html

"Presently WINDandSEA has over 1,000 selected links to science and policy sites organized by topic and alphabetically within topic." NOAA librarians developed the site, whose index includes representative topics of Coastal Studies, Geoscience, Marine Archaeology, and Remote Sensing. In addition to the Index, users can view topics within the headers – Current Topics, Teachers and Students Corner, NOAA Photosites, and the NOAA Video Portal.

NATURE: INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE/AVIAN FLU
http://www.nature.com/nature/focus/avianflu/index.html

Nature "provides rapid, authoritative, insightful and arresting news and interpretation of topical and coming trends affecting science, scientists and the wider public."
This Web Focus page of the journal concentrates on warnings of a flu pandemic, specifically the Avian or Bird Flu. Given are an Avian Flu Timeline, current research by month (in full text), an Archive, plus a link to another Web Focus page with discussion of the 1918 influence pandemic.

One For Fun!

MUNSELL COLOR SCIENCE LABORATORY
http://www.cis.rit.edu/mcsl/outreach/faq.php

Actually the FAQ page from RIT Dyes, the page allows users to "Ask a Color Scientist," and ask they do! You will find anything from the most basic questions,""I am doing a science project on what colors are easiest to see in the dark. Can you help me figure out what experiment I should do," to the narrowest of focus, "Is there an analytical method for calculating relative powers needed to achieve a specific white balance for monochromatic sources (eg: lasers) of known wavelengths," to the totally bizarre, "Why is it more difficult to say the color of the word when it is printed in a different color?" A fun timesink.

Santa
Came to
Town!

Wilmington District-Built MOTSU Celebrates 50th Anniversary

After the World War Two, military authorities were concerned about the hazards of loading ammunition onto ships. Loading terminals had been located in populated areas where an explosive could cause deaths, injuries and property damage. The Army then developed a plan of "quantity safety distances" to keep civilian populations outside the perimeter of a 20,000 acre terminal. In 1950, the Chief of Engineers made a study of coastal areas and select locations where ammunition-loading terminals could be built that would comply. The Sunny Point location on the west bank of the Cape Fear River proved to be the perfect place because it met the requirements of 20,000 acres with rail and deep-water accessibility, shelter from storms, suitable year-round weather and minimal hardship to local civilians. The Wilmington District began construction on the terminal in December of 1952 and completed it in November of 1955. The cost was 22.5 million dollars. This was the last major military construction project for SAW. Early in 1961 the Army approved a plan for the reorganization of USACE, consolidating military construction from 31 to 19 districts. Military work in North Carolina transferred from the Wilmington District office to the Savannah District on 1 July of that year.

(Information compliled from To Great and Useful Purpose - A History of the Wilmington District.)

Former Deputy District Engineer LTC George "Thatch" Sheperd of the Savannah District, (left) accompanies Wilmington District Commander COL John Pulliam and Deputy District Engineer LTC Bud Jones at the historic Fort Johnston Garrison House in Southport. The three were guests at the 50th Anniversary of the Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point on 2 November.

Early stage of construction at Wharf 2.

Department of the Army
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Post Office Box 1890
Wilmington, NC 28402-1890

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

GPO U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 2005—742-036