

# Flagship

Vol. IX, No. 1  
January-March 2004



**Rick Moshier, Dec. 2, 1959-Feb. 10, 2004**

**You embarked on your ultimate adventure  
far, far too soon, friend; even so, your spirit  
yet coaches, inspires and encourages us  
in our work and lives**

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**Col. Debra M. Lewis**

*Commander's Notebook*

## New Beginnings

*"There's little to say that hasn't been said. There's much to do that hasn't been done."*

-R. Earle Atkinson

Imagine being given a clean slate to be the person you want to be, rather than the person you are right now. What would you change in the way you think, act, and do for others? What environment would you need to stay that person? Your answers may be key to our future success.

At different stages in my life, answers to these questions revealed some distinct gaps, spurring me to action to seek a better balance. On one hand, I realized the choices I make each day largely determine who I strive to be. But I also learned some very powerful forces exist, and that if I choose to ignore them, then I do so at my peril. Perhaps you've been misunderstood, or had others who think they know you, but they believe the exact opposite of your intended actions. How does that make you feel? Where could you go from here?

From where I sit and from what each of you has shown me by your professionalism and caring for others, miscommunication or misunderstanding has no place in NWS. However, I also see strong natural forces out there with the potential to undermine your trust in one another, your communications with others, and your very beliefs that may not allow you to give others the benefit of the doubt. Where might this situation be most noticeable? Perhaps, in the questions or the absence of questions when conditions are not clear-cut or information is incomplete.

Why is it often so easy to be lulled into thinking the worst of others and do so without questioning the situation? I'd also like to know why those who believe the worst about an action or person appear more comfortable sending an e-mail message about the situation to others, than in speaking one-on-one to the person(s) they have judged harshly? Why couldn't they wait until an answer is given before condemning them? How harmful can these sets of circumstances be for an organization? What would have to change to make the situation more productive for all?

Even if you believe everyone is well intentioned, talented and caring, certain conditions might test anyone's limits to give into the urge to judge someone harshly. However, before you succumb to these forces, I would ask that you please consider the one question you might ask

**(Continued on page 3)**

# Commander's Notebook

(Continued from page 3)

instead, to open the door to productive dialogue rather than bring out the worst in others. The frequency is rare, but the potential impact of such an event can undermine the very foundation of an organization. Vigilance in this one area may be key to our and others' future success in a rapidly changing and frequently stressful, short-fused environment.

My discussion above in no way diminishes the wonderful things that happened in Seattle District since our last publication. It only emphasizes how important I believe it is to get it right in treating others with genuine respect and caring. For we truly have some superstar program and project managers and project delivery teams making significant progress in so many areas. Also, support from all other offices in the district continues to be superb. Additionally, our recent successful visit from Northwestern Division demonstrated both our attention to detail across a broad range of areas and NWD's desire to clarify HQs' 2012 initiative in district terms, and reinforced our mutual hospitality and strong relationships throughout the assessment. Our "Low Country Boil" dinner extravaganza conceived by NWS's Diane Parks was a definite highlight.

As I write this, our respected and gifted Seattle District Chief, Engineering and Construction Division, Rick Moshier, died following a hard-fought battle with cancer. Rick was with NWS almost 24 years. His passing is a huge loss to his family, the Corps family and all those we serve; his legacy is one of humor, technical competence, and inspirational leadership.

*Debra M. Lewis*

## Commentary

### How does USACE 2012 affect my job? The nose knows as much as one knows

By Dave Harris

You could read until you are blue in the face. Piles of facts await you on the left panel of eNeWS about USACE 2012, the plan to transform the Corps into "a team of teams, operating regionally and virtually in a Learning Organization with increased interdependence and leveraging of resources."

Can't I get a simple primer that tells me how it affects me and my job?

Yes. But you won't find it in the thousands of words on the web.

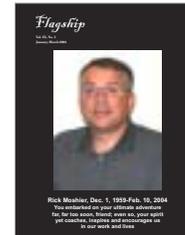
Make a beeline to the nose—your supervisor. Does he or she know all the answers? No. But your supervisors knows many of the possible options. USACE 2012's goal is not to eliminate anyone's job. Overlaid onto strategic sourcing, Strategic Army Workforce, the National Security Personnel System, it can get dicey in figuring out how it impacts your particular position.

So sit down with your supervisor and scope out the spectrum of possibilities—nose-to-nose—and don't leave without answers and a workable range of possibilities, and a determination to hang loose and stay flexible.

Start job-hunting? No way. You can compete with the best of them. We need you to lead the best into the better, faster, more efficient Corps future.



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Seattle District



Cover story:  
Rick Moshier,  
Chief,  
Engineering  
& Construc-  
tion, lost his  
battle with  
cancer. See  
pages 10-13.



This issue was  
especially  
prepared for  
Jinny Davies  
and the Seattle  
District family.

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# Retiring John Coyle wore two uniforms at Libby-Albeni Falls

Stories by Patricia Graesser

Albeni Falls Dam celebrates the career of a flood engineer, ranger, manager and community resource on April 3, when John Coyle retires as Park Manager at Albeni after 35 years of federal service.

John started his Army career with a commission through the ROTC program at the University of New Hampshire in June of 1968. He began active duty September 1968 with the Engineer Officer Basic Course at Ft. Belvoir, Va, and was then assigned to the 339th Engineer Battalion at Fort Lewis until July of 1969.

“Next stop was the 46th Engineer Battalion, in Long Binh, Vietnam, where I spent three months as an earthmoving platoon leader and nine months as Headquarters Company Commander. While there, I got a letter from Lt. Col. Munson, Seattle Deputy, about the position in Libby. I said ‘yes’ and here I am!!

“I was promoted to Captain right after arrival and was assigned to the Libby Resident Office as Assistant to the Resident Engineer—the official title—but my main focus as a forester was the inspection and coordination of the reservoir clearing,” John said.

During the three years he was working at Libby, John worked with each section in the office and gained experience in all kinds of construction, railroad salvage, relocation of the City of Rexford, environmental restoration, and more.

“In 1973 I made the decision to leave the Army and was fortunate to be selected for the Park (Resource) Manager position for the Libby-Albeni Falls Project—the two projects were combined until 1995,” said John. “I

was one of six people in the initial complement of Operations folks at Libby, and we all worked to put the O&M organization and infrastructure in place.”

John arrived at Albeni Falls Dam in March 1974 and served there the remainder of his federal career.

John’s experience as a uniformed officer with Libby construction proved useful over the years as John led flood teams and managed construction while at Albeni.

“John has worked tirelessly to promote the natural resources program at Albeni,” said Bob Schloss, John’s long-time supervisor. “He has done an excellent job working with the public. He has done a lot of work with erosion protection and been proactive with those projects.”

John served as flood engineer on the St. Joe River for more than a decade. “John is our eyes and ears in northern Idaho,” said Paul Komoroske, chief of Emergency Management Branch. “He’s a consummate diplomat—he gets people to work together. He’s honest and forthright, and people respond well to him.”

John leaves the Corps at the end of an erosion control project in Ponderay and in the midst of a large campground renovation project at Riley Creek. He successfully led community outreach efforts for both projects, once again demonstrating his way with people.

The road ahead holds projects around the house, visits to daughters in Alaska and Oregon, and, “Somewhere in there is some ‘kick back and relax’ time—like we haven’t been fishing in 10 years.” John’s wife, Maggie, will join him in retirement April 12.



John Coyle  
at Black Rock

## Team efforts stabilize Black Rock bank before spring thaw

As recently as January, erosion threatened property along Lake Pend Oreille, with the potential to destroy wetland habitat and an active railroad line in Ponderay, Idaho. Thanks to the efforts of Planning Branch, Albeni Falls Dam staff, Emergency Management and others, the bank is stabilized in time for spring thaw.

The Corps began construction with rented equipment in late January. Work included rock placement to control erosion and stabilize the bank along approximately 2,900 feet of shoreline at “Black Rock” near the south end of Ponderay’s Cedar Street. The team also installed large woody debris to provide fish habitat.

A lot of construction projects can only be done after the spring thaw, but for this project the team wanted to

work on frozen ground in the middle of winter. Winter conditions provided crews with the ability to work out of the water while Lake Pend Oreille was down at its winter elevation—10 feet below its summer level. Winter in northern Idaho also normally means frozen earth and less sloppy haul road conditions. However, a warmer winter with less than ideal weather has required crews to place additional rock to stabilize haul roads.

Prior to beginning construction, the project delivery team held an information meeting about the project Jan. 13 in Ponderay, which a couple dozen interested community members and Ponderay officials attended.

To ensure bald eagles were not impacted by the  
**(Continued on back page)**

# Up against a wall

By Patricia Graesser

The Seattle waterfront rumbles with activity—tourists wander through shops and attractions; cars, trucks and buses whiz by on the Highway 99 viaduct; ferries take on and spew forth their bellies full of commuters; trains motor north and south; and trolleys jangle back and forth. All this activity is dependent on a subterranean seawall, which very few Seattleites even knew existed until the 2001 Nisqually earthquake.

A seawall failure would severely impact commerce, and lives could be endangered.

The seawall supports Alaskan Way (the surface street) and a variety of utilities. Alaskan Way includes the waterfront streetcar, which provides trolley access to the International District, Pioneer Square and Seattle waterfront locations. Alaskan Way also provides access to Colman Dock, which supports ferry service to Bainbridge Island, Bremerton and Vashon Island. The wall retains fill that supports some of the foundations of the Alaskan Way Viaduct (Highway 99) as well as the foundations for some nearby buildings. The seawall also supports the Burlington Northern rail line, a major freight carrier for Seattle and the Port.

The Elliott Bay seawall consists of various types of construction, the majority of which dates back to 1934 (extending from Madison Street to Bay Street). The 1934 portion uses vertical piles and a horizontal timber relieving platform to hold the vertical face of the seawall in place. Most of the remainder of the wall south of Madison was constructed in 1916.

A 1996 Washington Department of Transportation study demonstrated that the Elliott Bay seawall, which holds the waterfront soils in place, could fail if the soils liquefy. If the seawall fails, the liquefied material may spread to the west and into Elliott Bay jeopardizing nearby facilities and structures.

Following the Nisqually earthquake, crews performed field investigations and liquefaction analyses for a portion of Alaskan Way that had settled. These investigations concluded that a portion of the loose fills below the relieving platform had liquefied and settled in areas where the seawall structure has been heavily damaged by wood-boring marine creatures. It is possible that fill in other locations along Alaskan Way may have begun to liquefy, even though there is no other evidence of widespread roadway settlement.

To determine the best way to rebuild a seawall to protect the city's waterfront, the City of Seattle is working in partnership with the Army Corps of

Engineers. Seattle District is conducting a feasibility study to find a long-term solution that will protect economic activity in downtown Seattle. The City of Seattle is the non-federal sponsor of the feasibility study.

The Corps' reconnaissance report, approved by Corps headquarters in October 2003, demonstrated that there is a federal interest in examining the feasibility of a project that will protect the public facilities and economic activities along the Elliott Bay shoreline from storm damages.

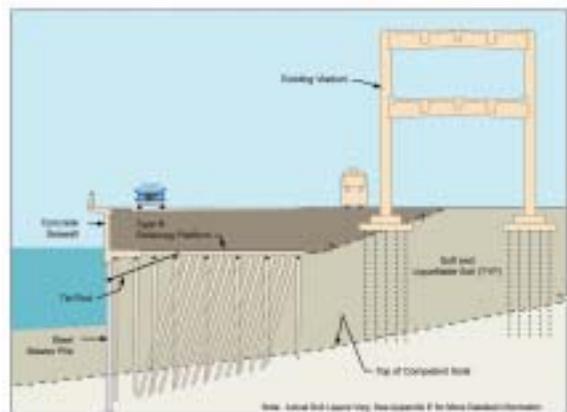
To move forward, the district will use information contained in its reconnaissance report, as well as the City's previous engineering analyses and its draft Environmental Impact Statement, which Seattle expects to release at the end of March.

With its feasibility study, the Corps will evaluate alternatives to address the storm damage problem and will recommend a plan. The study team will produce a feasibility report and National Environmental Policy Act documentation. The documents will describe problems and opportunities, plans formulated, engineering and economic feasibility and public acceptability of alternatives, the social and environmental constraints and impacts for each alternative, and the recommended plan.

The feasibility phase's specific goal is to identify a plan for storm damage reduction that is technically viable, has federal and non-federal support, and will provide economic benefits at reasonable and affordable cost.

Because many district office employees use the viaduct daily to get to and from the Federal Center South, and the seawall directly supports portions of the viaduct, the seawall project concerns more employees than the district's study team. If you are interested in the viaduct and seawall projects, you can check Seattle's website at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct/default.cfm>.

The district will begin evaluating and sharing specifics on the seawall construction alternatives following the city's selection of a preferred transportation alternative later this year.





**By Dave Harris**

**D**ecades ago, young men (only) could graduate from West Point in New York and report for duty at Seattle's West Point—Fort Lawton.

My first recollection as a first-grader at Lawton School was watching soldiers in buses from my vantage point at home on 36th Avenue West, or near the gate on Government Way.

Even then I noticed a difference. When the buses traveled north and east, laughing, happy soldiers leaned out the windows as Magnolians cheered and welcomed them home. The boisterous soldiers were returning from a bloody war in Korea, a place I where I was to serve safely two decades later.

But in 1951, the buses traveling west out of Fort Lawton exhibited somber, quiet soldiers contemplating an uncertain fate in the Far East. Some never returned.

One of the most exciting days of my childhood was Armed Forces Day at Fort Lawton. Fellow “cowboy” Mike Mushkin and I strapped on our six-shooters and watched a spectacular mock battle with colored smoke, blazing rifles and Howitzers and flying rescue choppers. The band played, and I never wanted the music to stop. Today you can take your family to Discovery Park on the tip of Magnolia Bluff, near the West Point Solid Waste Treatment Plant.

The glory days there are gone, but a proud Army Reserve remains, and Seattle District has replaced old barracks with glistening offices and conference centers.

Most recently, Col. Debra Lewis and Project Manager Marilyn Eleno attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony for a band room and alteration to an existing assembly hall, 70th Army Reserve Center.

“I was thankful to be included in such a special occasion,” Colonel Lewis said. “I was very proud our district was part of something that properly honors our military's important traditions. The concert and quality

acoustics of the room itself showcased the superb talents of the military band members from three different states. All in all, I found it to be one of my most enjoyable concerts ever!”

The assembly hall's existing 3,505 square feet houses concrete/brick veneer exterior walls and a glue-lam/metal bar, joist-framed low sole roof. There is a large 14-by-14-foot rollup door at the west end. The space has been modified for use as a main band practice hall and multipurpose use auditorium with tiered fixed seating, new lighting, and power and space conditioning systems as appropriate for the new use. The facility sports a digital sound system with adequate acoustic control.

The Corps constructed a new 5,033 square-foot addition on the south side of the existing assembly hall to accommodate other functions of the 70th Division Band. This structure is a pre-engineered metal building with a low slope metal roof and brick veneer (wainscot) and prefinished metal siding exterior walls. Metal cladding color and brick match adjacent existing structure as closely as possible. The building accommodates unit office space, rehearsal rooms, a recording room, storage and repair spaces, and a locker area.

Again, provisions have been made for acoustic control, unlike the concrete-block echo chambers in school where I wielded a blaring trombone.

Even today, war impacts Fort Lawton activities. Marilyn, the Project Manager, lost the services of her Program Manager, Sidney Jones, who deployed to Iraq. Jim Priest provided quality assurance, and Mike Ryan contributed his expertise from Louisville District.

“This project is one of the best examples of where the customers, end-users, contractor, and the Corps put their efforts together and completed this job successfully, within the budget and within a reasonable time,” Marilyn said. “I'm happy that I was given a chance to work with the 70th RRC, Mike Ryan with Louisville District; Mike Sugimura with the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve at U.S. Forces Command; Centennial Contractors, and some of our Seattle District staffs. It was a great experience working as a ‘team.’”

As for me, I always wanted to play trombone in a military band. It came down to faking trombone performances, Jack Benny style, at district Town Halls. After hearing me play, Col. Tim Wynn, former commander, wrote an evaluation into my permanent record, my appraisal. I prize it most of all. With symphonic clarity, it provides a succinct critique as it reveals Colonel Wynn's exquisite and highly trained musical discernment.

“Plays a lousy trombone.”

# Climate forecast: warmer & wetter means tricky water management

By Larry Schick

Seattle District Meteorologist

Those who have lived in the Pacific Northwest for any length of time will tell you the climate is changing. They may not have data to back it up, but they're right. That change may bring about changes in Seattle District's water management operations too.

Snowpack so far this year is near normal. If we have a typical spring and summer weather pattern, we'll likely have no major weather worries. Almost forgotten: last year's meager snow pack, high snow levels and warm, dry summer.

The winter snowpack is our bank account for summer stream flow and water supply. Energy, fish, agriculture and drinking water for people—we all depend on that snowpack for our summer water needs.

But what if this year's "near normal" becomes the exception and not the rule? That could be the case, if the climate is changing.

Most scientists now accept the evidence of global climate change. There is some debate as to the cause—manmade, natural or both. According to the Climate Impacts Group, during the past 100 years the Pacific Northwest has warmed 1.5 degrees F and precipitation has increased by about 15 percent. The consensus is we will have more warming and increased winter precipitation as the century unfolds. That combination will be tricky for people who control the water.

The Corps' water managers in Seattle are keeping up to date on the latest climate change research and how those changes may impact operations.

"It's part of our mindset, but not a part of any formal institutional changes," says Ken Brettmann, hydraulic engineer in Hydraulics and Hydrology.

A consistently warmer and wetter future would mean modifying the way the Corps does its work, especially with its reservoirs. "Our flood operations may overlap our refill," Brettmann says. "With warmer

winters ahead, it might mean starting refill of the reservoirs before the flood threat is over." He cautions, "That overlap of conflicting responsibilities may be difficult."

In Western Washington the flood season and the refill season do not conflict. The challenge will be that if we get warmer, operations may have to grab melting snow a little earlier to fill the reservoirs. That means there will be less reservoir space for flood control at certain times.

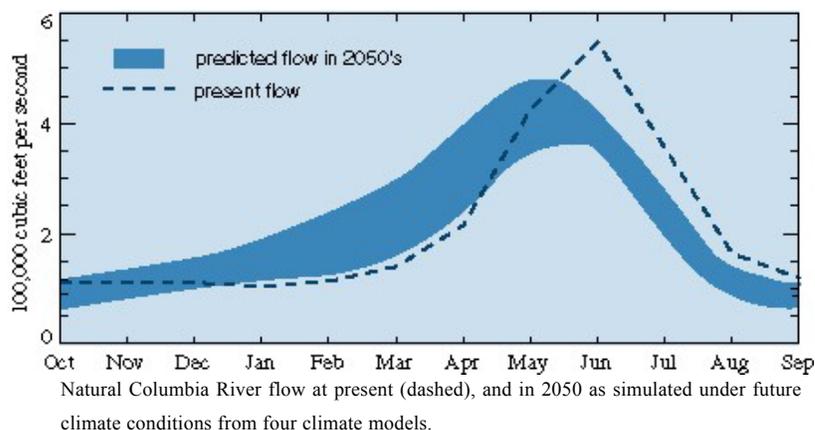
The warmer, wetter winters would mean more flood potential, while the warmer, drier summer will put a strain on supply and demand of water for fish, drinking supply and other uses. The overall warming will mean less snow resulting in decreased summer stream flow.

The great Columbia Basin would be challenged with changing water supply too. Peak runoff periods may be flatter and occur earlier with less snow. An earlier spring warm-up and subsequent melt in a warmer future would be the cause. The entire water supply and demand would strain the system. Adjustments would be complicated.

Difficult choices will have to be made between water for hydropower and water for fish. There may not be enough water for both if supply and timing is altered due to climate change.

Another factor is how future water projects may have to be designed and built with global climate change in mind. A project may not be able to rely on past environmental data to be valid in a warmer and wetter future. Future coastal projects and projects bordering the Puget Sound may have to be considered with rising sea levels due to climate change. It all means rethinking past assumptions.

Says Brettmann, "It was always thought that the recent past was the key or predictor of the future, but with global climate change, that may not be a correct assumption."



## From Dee Flower in Kenya

# ‘Jambo’ to Seattle District

*After a trip to Kenya last February with the National Association for Interpretation, Dee Flower asked for a year’s leave of absence from her position as a Park Ranger at Albeni Falls Dam so she and friend Andy could make a year-long commitment to living and working in Kenya as teachers, photographers and unofficial ambassadors. Here’s Dee’s letter.*

Jambo – Hello – from Kenya!  
Andy and I have now lived in Rukanga, Kasigau – what Africans would call living “in the bush” – for the past four months. We have adjusted to living without many modern conveniences such as electricity, telephones, and running water. We have an outdoor toilet, which is a deep hole in the ground, and a shower that is a barrel with water added daily. We buy vegetables daily from the local villagers and cook over a propane burner. Even washing our clothes by hand has been rewarding in simple ways. We are the only mizulus – white people – except for a Peace Corps worker at the health center.

We watch the sunset every night and the sunrise comes up over the mountain every morning. We walk most places and hike up the mountain often to photograph and enjoy the wildlife, mostly birds and monkeys. We have been making weekly trips into the town of Voi to send e-mails and do some shopping. Our bandas (thatched roof home) is nicely decorated and cozy



Dee Flower uses photography to delight Kenyan children.

in many ways. We enjoy the interaction we have with our security guards Hateb and Williamson Olongo. They made us bows and arrows and tools for cooking and cleaning the Kenyan way. Occasionally we travel over to the Taita Discovery Centre to recharge our batteries – our computer, cameras, and bodies. The highlight of being at the Centre is that we go on regular game drives where wildlife abounds.

Our experiences during this time have included climbing Mt. Kasigau, a cloud forest that supports an endangered white-eyed Montane bird endemic only to this area. We were fortunate enough to see and hear this elusive bird, but were unable to photograph it. Once we were charged by elephants: surrounded by over 200 of the thirsty pachaderms. It was a bit tense as we drove our vehicle very slowly out of the area. This mountain is surrounded by five villages, which include 16,000 Africans. We have videotaped elementary school children doing their traditional dance as a way to retain their culture.

We have made many trips to Mombasa and the coast. Once you have seen the Indian Ocean, with its many shades of aqua marine, and felt the warm clear water and walked in the white powdery sand, you want to return again and again. Much of the coast is still under the influence of Europeans and afternoon tea is a daily event. The police protection here is visible on every corner

with uniformed men with rifles and they always smile as if saying to us “We are here for you.”

We even spent a night in Watamu, Hemingway’s hang out for several years – excellent big game fishing.

Our first trip to Mombasa was on a bus that many people call “a coffin on wheels,” for good reason. Many busses are overloaded and crash and burn because of high speeds, pothole roads, and poor shocks and springs. The road to Mombasa was built half by the Chinese – a beautiful road like an interstate in the United States – with the other half built by the Kenyans, an incomplete road full of holes and rough edges supposedly due to the corruption in past President Moi’s government.

Since Mombasa is a large port, there is excellent shopping and we purchased many  
**(Continued on next page)**

(Continued from previous page)

needed items. Now, how will we get them back to the bush? We catch a ride on the Virgin Islands bus that will put all our goods on top and deliver us to our destination. On this bus we encounter live chickens and ducks walking around under the seats all around our feet – we guess they will be someone’s dinner. On this particular trip we connected with a nice couple with two small children who are contractors with United States Agency for International Development (USAID). They have relatives in our hometown of Sandpoint, Idaho – it really is a small world and getting smaller all the time!

On two of our game drives we have encountered the Tsavo lions. These are ancestors of the famous man-eating lions that killed over 200 Indians while they worked on the Nairobi-Mombasa railway in the early 1900’s. The lions are unique because the males don’t have manes, and they do their own hunting. We even met Bruce Patterson from the Chicago Field Museum, who spends much of his time in the Tsavo area of Kenya studying these handsome creatures. Tsavo is known as an arid region with fine red soils. We can vouch for that because we have red soil in our house, in our clothes, in our hair, stained on our feet and we haven’t even read “The Red Soils of Tsavo,” yet!

These four months have been in the spring here, but it’s very hot and dry. Everyone is waiting for the rainy season to begin. We have celebrated with the locals on Moi Day and Kenyatta Day – these are the past presidents of Kenya. The new president, Kibachi, just took office this past January. Things are changing here for the better but not without the typical struggles and growing pains.

One afternoon in our bandas we found a snake. I ran down the hill to find our security guard, Hateb. He and our housekeeper Lydia fought it off with Raid and sticks. It took some time to catch it and get it outside. I could see that it was a poisonous snake by the shape of its head. It was later identified as a “red spitting cobra.” Fortunately we were leaving for Nairobi the next morning. We were invited to ride with the East African Wild Life Society (EAWLS). Visiting Nairobi brought us to the conclusion that we need a vehicle since without travel one begins to feel trapped in this isolated, beautiful

land. It also brought us to the conclusion that we have lived in the bush long enough and now want to experience another segment of the Kenyan population – small town living. So we will look to move to Voi upon our return to Kasigau. Mind you – the “cobra” incident didn’t in any way help us to make this decision – right!

In Voi we will have electricity, indoor plumbing, and telephone service. We moved into our new home in mid January 2004. We are in a fenced compound, nicely landscaped, and have Masai warriors as our security guards. They have already taught us much about their culture.

Our projects here include writing and editing a newsletter for the Kasigau Conservation Trust, teaching Certified Interpretive Guide training courses for the Trust, EAWLS, Taita Discovery Center, and Kenyan Wildlife Service (KWS) next. We are photographing the

people and the wildlife, organizing events such as a Bike Derby to gain support for the conservation trust, and next we will be interviewing the US Ambassador for an article we are writing for SWARA, the East African Wild Life Society magazine. The Ambassador will be attending a ribbon cutting ceremony in the new resort called Lumo and we are covering the event. Just this week the Visitor Centre Project has become a reality and we are very much involved in the design and planning process. It

will be at the Tsavo East National Park Gate. It is no surprise that when Kenyans find out that I work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers they have huge projects in mind for us – like replacing the 50-year-old water pipeline that goes from Voi to Mombasa or building a bridge to connect Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks.

And so the adventure continues!



“Once we were charged by elephants: surrounded by over 200 of the thirsty pachaderms. It was a bit tense as we drove our vehicle very slowly out of the area.”



**Rick Moshier, right, helps delighted customers celebrate the runway reopening at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.**



**Blowing out 40 candles.**



**Accepting yet another design award.**

# Rick Moshier: pu

**R**ick L. Moshier died Feb. 10 after a tough battle with lymphoma. He was 44. Rick was Seattle District's Chief of Engineering and Construction Division; he was a Corps employee since 1980. Father to daughter, Kelly, and son, Robert, and husband of Anne. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and watching his children perform. He is also survived by parents, Roger and JoAnn; siblings, Roger, Carol, Linda and Dona; and loving nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Rick Moshier was among the new generation moving up after a whole layer of people who departed from Seattle District under voluntary separation and other retirements in the 1990s.

Rick came to the district in 1980. He had completed two years at Seattle University, was "out of funds" and came into the district through the Cooperative Education Program. The theory-and-practice Co-op program recruits people after their sophomore or junior year and allows them to spend six expense-free months in college and six months on the job and places them in a job with no further competition after graduation.

In the beginning, Rick worked in Regional Planning when Walt Farrar was chief, then went to Emergency Operations, and then to the Mechanical Section of Design Branch. After receiving his mechanical engineering degree, he worked for Oscar Eason in the Mechanical/Electrical Section, then made a lateral move as a GS-11 to work for mentor and friend Bob Parro in Review and Technical Support Branch. Next, in 1989, he moved on to Military Project Management Branch doing Base Realignment and Closure repositioning work for Mountain Home Air Force Base and the MX Peacekeeper, Rail Garrison program.

He became chief of Review and Technical Support Branch in 1990, and when a shuffle in staff and the first Gulf War gave him the opportunity, he landed an appointment as acting assistant chief of the Design Branch. Phil O'Dell selected him as chief of the branch in December 1994. Upon O'Dell's retirement around the turn of the century, Rick was selected as Chief, Engineering and Construction Division, where he implemented, as part of the District Executive Team, the Project Management Business Processes.

He was a key leader through a number of crises impacting the lives of Seattle District people and customers. He was recognized for leading a task force to expedite a remedy for a major structural failure of the corrosion control hangar at McChord Air Force Base. He helped spearhead a structural engineering evaluation

# urpose-driven life

Following a shake-up of Federal Center South as a result of the Nisqually earthquake in February 2001. Rick provided leadership and a calming demeanor after the terrorist attack on America Sept. 11, 2001.

Having earned a reputation for hard work and long hours, Rick looked for ways to streamline hiring talented people. He said he looked forward to getting up every day and going to work, “influencing the direction, executing and balancing resources, staff size and customer needs. It’s always fun, and more so when we make some forward progress.”

Upon hearing of Rick’s illness a year ago, friends, acquaintances, strangers and loved ones rallied around him. He said he found it rather pleasant and surprising when people met him in the hall and told about their own family or something as intimate as the death of a spouse.

“Thank everyone for well wishes and concern,” he said. “When people who aren’t as close to me share their feelings, it’s even more meaningful.”

Learning of Rick’s death, longtime friend Olton Swanson wrote from Alaska, “This is sad news for all. Rick was six months younger than me; it really puts one’s priorities in perspective. Makes me see that it makes no sense to sweat the small stuff.”



Rick and longtime friend, Olton Swanson.



Rick gets a promotion to GS-11 from his former boss, Oscar Eason.



Scott Britt paints Rick’s face at the Corps picnic. Rick liked to be around people, and you could always find him at a celebration.

# Remembering Rick Moshier

## **Phil O'Dell, former Chief, Engineering Division:**

I vividly recall meeting Rick at a racquetball game in South Center shortly after coming to Seattle in 1990. At that time he worked as a PM for Brad Luton in military project management, but playing a competitive sport, even when meeting for the first time, can be very revealing. In Rick's case, my initial reaction turned out to be true.

During our 10 years together he did each defined job exceptionally well, but never stopped there. He moved way past his specific job objectives. And more than anyone else I worked with, Rick was able to leverage his strengths and passions to create breakthrough ideas and get the buy-in to carry them through.

“Rick Moshier taught me to treasure and enjoy the times I get to work with highly competent and motivated team members.”

—Ginny Dierich

## **Belinda L. Diza-Saito, Program Analyst:**

Rick has been my best friend for over 15 years. Our careers took off about the same time and we learned much about the business from one another. Of all the many things Rick taught me, being courageous, having integrity and doing the right thing are the most cherished. He helped define who I am today.

He had a reputation for taking on the most challenging and difficult projects and issues and turning them into successes. Rick said, “Taking the high road gets you somewhere.” Trying to bring us to a higher performance level or thinking was one of Rick's managerial strengths and something he continuously imposed on us for our own betterment.

Rick was an amazing leader. He had a rare combination of passion, compassion and discipline. Someone in EC recently told me “Rick's presence in a room brought a sense of calm and reassurance.”

## **Arill Berg, Acting Chief, Resource Management:**

The first experience with Rick Moshier that comes to mind was in the late 1980s. The two of us did a lessons learned walk-through for a completed construction project at the Yakima Training Center. What stuck me at the time was his intense interest in the issues surrounding the project. He seemed to listen intently and didn't stop asking questions until he had completely processed everything I had to say. In 1993, we were both selected to participate in the Management Intern Program. That was the year we really got to know one another. Rose Espinoza, Rick and I worked on a project together on the

subject of lessons learned. I remember his interest in an article on the “learning organization” by Peter Senge that we were asked to read that year. We also worked together on the reorg of the old Engineering and Construction Divisions. He was very passionate about the fact that we could work together to improve our services to our customers and the Nation. In 2002, we talked about

going on a hike together. Early that Fall, we arranged to hike to the top of Mount Saint Helens. It was a fairly tough day hike but he was determined to do it despite a nasty weather forecast. Two of the six slated to go bailed out because of the forecast, but I

knew before I even called to confirm that he was going to go ahead with it and not quit until he made it to the top...and of course, he did.

## **Annette Garner, PPPMD:**

I just need to say I will miss this man, Rick Moshier! I have tried all day to keep the tears back but a few start falling. More than a few! The loss of anyone we know is a tragedy. I first knew him when he was around 22, just a kid. He was so lively and eager to do good for the Corps. I remember him as a Project Manager working under Brad Luton, Gerry Rice, Larry Shannon. He was one of my AMPRS Customers during those days. He was always on time with getting me the information I needed. He really enjoyed being a Project Manager, worked hard and took pride in his work. He was very caring and I always knew I had a true friend. We laughed a lot and he always brought cheer into any room. He was very free with compliments and hugs. That was Rick...the man I knew. I will miss him, his smile, and when he looked at you his eyes told you how much he really cared.

I saw him in the hospital for a brief visit before he went for his radiation treatment. As he woke up and saw me he lit up with a smile and called my name in a whisper and asked for a kiss on his cheek. Still the dashing young man I used to know way back when. I showed him a picture of me and my grandkids which he did not want to let go of. He was grasping for every moment of life he could. He knew and I knew the time was coming. Each one of us has an impact on the other and he made his mark in my life. Thank you, Rick, for your kindness and may God be with him and his family. I loved him too.

**(Continued on next page)**

**Avril Whitaker, Design Branch:**

Every now and then I would see Rick in passing—he would never say much but always had a smile. In September 2000, Design Branch's Secretary position became open. I was eager for a new challenge, so I asked Rick if I could interview with him for the position, his response was yes; we agreed on an interview later that afternoon in his office. When it came time, I got a little delayed, so Rick came up to Construction and asked me, "Do we have an appointment?" I responded yes we do and I'm on my way up there right now. I started the interview by talking about myself and work experience with the Corps, and he asked me a few questions. Rick then gave me some insight on himself and Design Branch. One thing that stuck with me: Rick said some days he'd be deep in thought and don't take offense if he's not very talkative or to himself. I knew I could work with Rick, because he was very truthful with me. About a week and a half later, on a Saturday morning I got a phone call; it was Rick. He personally called me to offer me the position. My response was that I would love to accept.

After working in Design Branch a few weeks, here comes my first encounter. As I started to receive timesheets from the branch I noticed one of the timesheets looked like it was copied 20 times. It took me some time to find the guilty person... My next timekeeping problem was receiving overtime requests but no signed approved documentation. So I asked Rick if I could join him and his section chiefs at their weekly meeting; he gladly welcomed me. I discussed the issues with Rick and the branch chiefs; they resisted a little but Rick supported me 100 percent. Later, Rick gave me a hug and said that he was proud of me for standing up for what I believed to be true and standing my ground.

Bravo award deadline had passed. Late one afternoon a few Design Branch employees came to me and asked if it was too late to submit their Bravo Award. I said the deadline had passed. The sad faces looked at me and said, "Do you think you could push two more awards through to Rick to be approved?" I said I'll try my best. So I prepared the personnel action and sent them to Rick's inbox. As I finished the actions I said to Mark I have two more awards for Rick to sign. His response was, "Avril, I don't know if I can get these actions through, but I will try." About 20 minutes went by and I was on my way home. I ran into Mark. He said, "Avril, go with me and ask Rick to sign the Bravo awards for you; he'll do it for you." So we proceeded to Rick's office. I said, "Rick, I need you to do me a favor." He responded "yes." I asked him if he could sign two more awards; he asked what kind? I said Bravo award. Rick responded, "For you Avril, but not for Mark." Mark and I started laughing, because

Mark had predicted Rick's response to my request.

I'm very thankful and proud of my relationship with Rick; he made me feel valuable and appreciated. Rick was My Boss, My Mentor, My Friend, and My Brother; he took me under his wings and let me grow to be the person I am today. I will always be eternally grateful to what Rick brought to my life. It's hard not to cry when I think of Rick. I miss you, Rick.

**Ken Brettmann, H&H:**

I worked under Rick in the EC Division for three years but didn't really get to know him due to the large number of employees that worked for him. Nevertheless, I felt that he was someone who truly cared about his employees. During his illness he would occasionally stop by the Reservoir Control Center to offer support or words of encouragement. I was particularly touched when he called into one of our morning water management meetings from his hospital room to let us know that he was thinking of us and that he appreciated the job that we were doing.

**To a Very Special Corps Family:**

In more than 20 years of service to the Army Corps, Rick came to appreciate just how important his friends and colleagues were to him. In the months and weeks before his death, we, his family, came to appreciate just how important you were to us.

Your many acts of kindness during this time were a tribute to some of the qualities Rick himself possessed: duty to the task at hand, loyalty to his friends, generosity of spirit, optimism in the face of challenge.

Now that his struggle is finished, we want you to know how much he treasured your cards and calls, your thoughtful gifts and most especially your many visits. When he grew too sick to say much and his brain began playing tricks on him, he smiled at the mention of your names, nodded in acknowledgement of your encouraging words and reached out to hold your hands. Through it all, he fought to return to the work and the people he was so dedicated to.

It was always his goal to be a good leader. He studied how to manage well and, with his curious mind, was forever considering how to handle work situations to get the best result for the most. When he was diagnosed with cancer, little did he know that his greatest lesson in leadership would be learned—and taught—in his dying. The words "courageous battle" have taken on new, deep meaning.

As we share a vow to honor his memory, let us live as he would have—not as a saint but as a searcher, looking for the better way and pursuing these principles: Work hard. Be honest. Play fair. Try to do the right thing.

We pledge to carry on, as he would want us to, in this spirit. As we turn our attention to the task, please accept our humble, heartfelt thanks for all that you did.

—Anne Triesch Moshier, Kelly, Robert & family



# Take off your coat and stay a while

By Patricia Graesser

Our people are the district. In an information economy, talent is what differentiates an organization. We know intuitively that retaining talented employees increases quality, saves money and allows employees to build relationships among themselves and customers.

Myriad opportunities lure the best and brightest, and the cost of recruiting and training new people is high. Additionally, in times of uncertainty (for instance, with 2012, A-76, and the National Security Personnel System on the horizon), the risks for losing top talent are especially high.

Some folks think people leave a job when offered more money. In truth, the reasons why our employees have said they would leave are:

- For a promotion/more money or when faced with no advancement opportunities
- Lack of support from leadership, ineffective management
- Lack of personal growth and development

Employees offered the above responses in focus groups that the Retention Team held with specific tenured groups. All tenure groups responded similarly. A few newer employees mentioned the physical location—folks wouldn't move with the district to a different city, or don't like Seattle and want to move regardless of the job.

When asked why they would stay another five years, employees said:

- Opportunities for individual development, training, personal growth
- Promotion/promotion potential
- Interesting work

Newer employees gave the three responses above most frequently and in that order. The 4-to 9-year tenure group also said promotion/advancement, and then teamwork and effective leadership/supervision. A couple of these folks also mentioned workload management as an issue. The 10-year+ group mentioned interesting work most frequently, then teamwork, and leadership modeling teamwork and balance. There was a concern for training and promotion in this group, but it was less frequently voiced than in the other two groups.

For folks to consider staying 10 or more years, they said they'd want the same things as stated above plus leadership and a team atmosphere. When employees are asked about what would keep them until retirement,

leadership—involvement, open process, teamwork, and valuing individuals in all areas—becomes a more frequent response.

The book *Love 'Em or Lose 'Em: Getting Good People to Stay*, by Beverly L. Kaye and Sharon-Jordan Evans, addresses managers' fears versus reality in retaining employees. Managers may have the fear, "What if I can't give employees what they want?" The fact is that most employees like being asked what they want, and managers will likely find at least one thing each employee wants that the supervisor can provide.

According to the book, a retention-focused manager selects and develops people so they grow, creates a work environment that people love, and has a management style that breeds loyalty.

The authors ask you to ask yourself (and this isn't just for supervisors—everyone can improve the workplace environment)—is it okay if you:

- Find opportunities for people?
- Support their growth?
- Energize the job?
- Talk about a person's goals?
- Say thank you?
- Tell the truth?
- Empower others?
- Listen better?
- Give more information?
- Have some fun?
- Mentor more?

The ways to retain talented employees are as varied as the individuals we employ. The key is communicating with them—ask what would keep them working at the district or at the Corps. While data suggests that supervisors bear most of the retention responsibility, recognition and encouragement from coworkers can certainly play a role in creating an environment in which folks want to remain.

To provide some ideas for supervisors and any interested employees, the Retention Team has arranged for the district to buy copies of the *Love 'Em or Lose 'Em* book, which will be available at each project and resident office and through the district library. The book comprises of 26 alphabetically arranged chapters, such as—Reward: Provide Recognition; Space: Give It; Truth: Tell It; Understand: Listen Deeper.

For information about retention and recruiting activities, click on the "Strategic Teams" category on the left side of eNeWS and look through the Recruiting & Retention and Welcome Team sites.

# Streambed restoration brings salmon back to Beaver Creek

By Steve Cosgrove

Chum salmon returned to a spawning stream in south Kitsap County, Wash., just days after Seattle District opened the restored channel at Beaver Creek, near Manchester State Park. This follows the successful cleanup of an old Navy fuel depot site at the Manchester Annex.

In an effort that began in the late 1990s, federal, state, and local concerns worked together to restore the natural course of Beaver Creek and return salmon to the area. The Seattle District worked with the Suquamish Tribe, Environmental Protection Agency, National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Navy Manchester Fuel Depot, Manchester State Park, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and local community to successfully remediate a former Navy dump, the adjacent shoreline, and inter-tidal sediment areas.

The old, original streambed was abandoned back when Manchester Annex was not only a fuel depot, but a training site. Originally constructed to provide harbor defense for Puget Sound during World War I, the Navy used Manchester Annex for testing torpedoes, storing anti-aircraft artillery guns, and more recently, as the Navy's fire training school. This resulted in a wide variety of contaminants, including dioxin-contaminated debris, polychlorinated biphenyls, heavy metals, furans, asbestos and petroleum hydrocarbons.

As part of the capping process, Seattle District filled in a highly contaminated marginal wetland that was part of a Superfund site.

Mitigation for this was to restore the old streambed so fish could use the restored habitat.

The original project included an upper sediment pond, a diversion box to split flow between the overflow channel and the

“With fewer weirs and a more gradual slope...we have a wonderful success in restoration.”

—George Hart

restored channel, weirs, large woody debris, gravel, shrubs and trees. In September 2002, the system of weirs began to progressively fail, washing out or passing flow below or around the weirs.

“When the government blocked the old stream bed, it created a straight channel that provided very poor habitat for fisheries,” said George Hart, an environmental scientist for the Corps, “The newly restored stream bed that meanders through a small area of forest provides excellent habitat for rearing of fisheries. Over time there may be an opportunity for nature to restructure the old streambed possibly to a spawning habitat along with the rearing habitat.”

Success came sooner than anyone thought possible as over 100 chum salmon used the old streambed within days after Seattle District opened the restored channel.

According to Hart, “The planted vegetation hasn't had the opportunity to grow, and the fish are already using the old stream bed. With fewer weirs and a more gradual slope after repair of the first attempt, we have a wonderful success in restoration.”



The newly restored stream bed that meanders through a small area of forest provides excellent habitat for rearing of fisheries.

# No wonder Seattle District excels; *everybody* has leader qualities

*Visiting author Doug Krug told us that no one's skills have a negative value; put everyone's qualities on a scale from 1-10. That way, everyone has some of every skill, including leadership.*

*Former commander Tim Wynn told management interns, "I can't offer each of you a promotion, but I expect each of you to lead in whatever position you find yourself."*

*We asked. You responded with examples of leadership at every level.*

## **Mick Shea recognizes Lonnie Hansen, Libby Dam:**

There are a number of informal leaders at Libby Dam. People who get the mission done but don't get headlines. They are the people who make any work place perform well. Libby Dam is blessed with many informal leaders, in a variety of sections.

One of them is Lonnie Hansen, Libby Dam Powerhouse Mechanic. Lonnie is an active and valuable informal leader. Lonnie is not a foreman or supervisor, nor does he carry any kind of title next to his name. However, he is definitely a leader in practice. His influence is felt not just in his shop, but he adds value beyond the shop to the project as a whole.

Lonnie leads on many activities around the plant. He mentors others in his section, particularly the younger staff. He shares his knowledge and he makes sure that each mechanic and utilityman knows what they are getting into on any new task. Lonnie helps others around him work safely day in and day out.

Lonnie also leads by example. He

is a self-motivated person and sets a "can-do" tone for his shop. When the crew foreman is taking care of other duties and not on the floor, Lonnie steps up and leads where needed. He sees what needs to be done and takes care of it without being told. He has set his standards, and he lives and works by them.

Lonnie is a positive presence and influence in the workplace in general. He appreciates what he has and brings an upbeat approach to his work. By focusing on the positive, Lonnie has overcome serious injury, yet doesn't let that affect his outlook or hold him back from anything. A fitness devotee, Lonnie walks the stairs and lifts weights daily to keep himself primed for his passion of skiing, but he jokes that it hasn't helped his golf game. His attitude in the workplace and on life is clearly a choice. In my opinion, Lonnie's choice to be positive and self motivated raises up not only himself, but everyone around him.

## **Anita Robinson recognizes Avril Whitaker, Design Branch:**

Avril is always willing to help where needed. I have seen her stop what she was doing and help me or others and also give directions to a visitor that was looking for someone.

**(Continued on next page)**



**Lonnie Hansen, in the operator's seat of a 75-ton crane high atop Libby Dam, lifts a bulkhead gate in preparation for the start-up of No. 1 turbine generator. Aaron Throop, left, and John Craver look on.**

## LEADERSHIP (Continued)

**Mike Deering, Marian Valentine and Larry Schick, Hydraulics and Hydrology Section, recognize a number of district leaders:**

**Gary Bartlett** undertook a huge challenge in cleaning out the old H&H Map Room that ultimately became the Libby Conference Room.



**Dennis Mekkers** promoted the Seattle District via an impressive interview with *Engineering News Record*.



**Lynne Melder** provided hydrology and hydraulics based information to a class at Shoreline Community College.



**Nancy Chin and Doug Knapp** are working with an senior engineering design team from Seattle University on the Mapes Creek Project.



**Seshu Vaddey and Dave Gustafson** are two lead members of the District eGIS team.

**Kate Steff** volunteers to take on any task that she sees needs doing: organizing meetings, developing templates to make other's work easier and customizing the Excel timesheet and labor tracking spreadsheet that much of the district uses.



**Ken Brettmann**, in H&H, cannot give blood because he was in Denmark 10 years ago. But he is always encouraging everyone to give. He has got [folks] here off our butts to give blood at every drive. The blood people have noticed a difference.



**Amy Reese** organized the Friday Spanish-speaking table in the lunchroom.



**Jeff Laufle and Evan Lewis** organize bike-to-work events.



# Leaders all over the district— Albeni Falls Dam, too, of course

By Cathy Burns

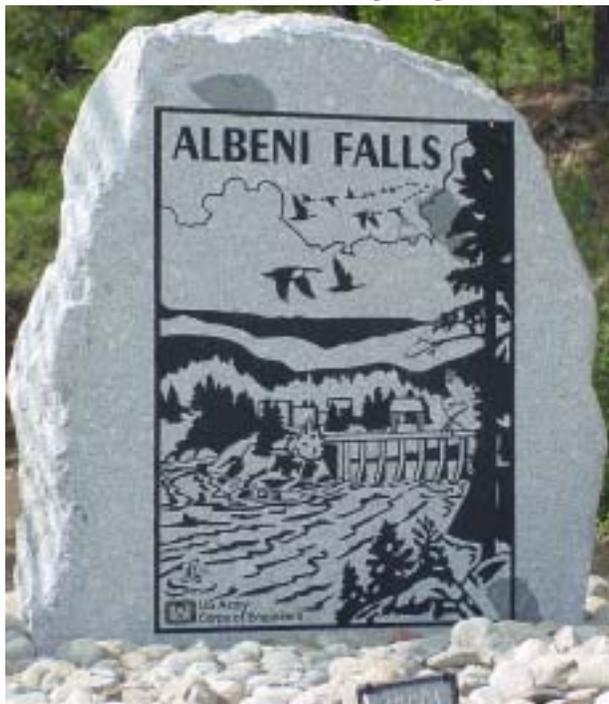
John Morelli is a Materials Handler (warehouseman) who technically works for the Administrative Officer. However, John does not wait to get direction if he sees an important need or job to be done. He always jumps right in and either spearheads the project or assists in getting the job done in the most efficient way and the least cost to the government. Here are some examples:

Albeni Falls Dam is now over 47 years old, and until 1999, there was not a flower or shrub or decorative tree anywhere near the site. In 1999, several employees suggested that we try to do some landscaping, irrigation, etc. since some of the roads were being fixed anyway. John was a true leader on this entire project from 1999 until completion in 2003. He was the lead on getting the plan put together, dealt with many people on what kind of trees, plants, shrubs, etc. and then completed the purchasing and worked with the contractor for planting. He helped create the new overlook area, and it was his idea to plant wildflowers on the hillside. John was also the idea behind and creator of our “rock,” a beautiful entry to the project by the new security gate.

John was also instrumental in getting the new

security gate installed. He was the contract inspector and worked with the contractor for the gate and also for the remote monitoring equipment and common access card reader.

Just in 2004, John worked with the Bobcat dealer and saved the government over \$4000. When the project Bobcat broke down, John decided that it wasn't the fault of the government or of the equipment; there was something else wrong. He spent time on the phone with the local dealer, the manufacturer and the factory representative. The end result was that the problem was a faulty part, and the manufacturer paid for most of the repairs.



John Morelli, bottom right, led efforts resulting in (above, counterclockwise) the “rock,” flower gardens, an overlook and decorative wall with Larry Morrell, Norm Storro and Cathy Burns.

# Around the District Corps Family



Employees who returned from deployment are honored at a Town Hall. From left, Gregg Takamura (Kuwait), Mike Atwell (Iraq), Matt Caesar (Afghanistan), Gerald Frazier (Iraq), Bob Schloss (Iraq), Steve Wright (Iraq) and Sara Young (Kuwait). The Corps has established the Gulf Region Division (Provisional). As Flagship was published, 10 people were deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Eight more will have returned recently (Sid Jones, Bill Graney, Maj. Steve Ward, Jeff Qunell, Norm Skjelbreia, Claudia Webb, Neil Jacobson and Hugh Markey).

## Speaking Outreach

**Ann Gerner** participated in a Career Day at Forest Ridge School Nov. 3. She used "Civil Works Futures" to show what the Corps does environmentally and what she does as a Corps attorney— opportunities for bright young women.

**George Hart and Fred Goetz** spoke Nov. 14 to the Western Dredging Association Annual Meeting on Anadromous Bull Trout, a threatened species in

Puget Sound and the Pacific Coast of Washington, and their impacts on dredging windows of navigation channels for the Seattle District. The study was for the Snohomish River and Swinomish Channel dredging projects. This is the first study to look at the behavior and habitat use of bull trout, an Endangered Species Act listed species.

The results are being used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to write recovery plans for bull trout in Puget Sound.

## Look What the Stork Brought...Babies!

**Vanessa Skylar**, to Donna DeWinkler, powerhouse electrician, Chief Joseph Dam, born July 31.



**Logan James**, to Jinny and Richard Davies. Jinny worked twice with PAO. Logan was born Feb. 16, Presidents Day.



## Retirees Luncheon

**The Seattle District Retirees Association's** semi-annual luncheon is Thursday, May 6, at the Lake City Elks Lodge, second floor. Social hour: 11 a.m. to noon. Lunch: noon to 12:45 p.m. Program: 1 to 2 p.m. Col. Debra Lewis will speak at the luncheon, which is open to friends, family and any Corps members. Cost is \$15.50, including tax and gratuity. Make checks payable to COE Retirees Association and mail to Bob Parker, 2533 NE 83rd St., Seattle, WA 98115. Phone: (206) 522-4116, [rogersparker@comcast.net](mailto:rogersparker@comcast.net)

**Ann Uhrich, Michael Lamprecht and T.J. Stetz** spoke Feb. 12 to a group of City of Seattle planners and project managers on the Corps' Regulatory Program, permit requirements and Water Resource Development Act coordination with the city.

**Gail Terzi**, Environmental Analyst for the Regulatory Branch, spoke concerning the Endangered Species Act Feb. 10, for the University of Washington graduate student class on Wetland Law.

# Kudos Kiosk



Norm Skjelbreia puts his finger through a bullet hole in his protective gear. "I'm hit in the back of the head. Luckily my borrowed vest had a collar on it that stopped the bullet after it went through the headrest," he said. "It threw my head forward. I grabbed the back of my head, thinking I would bleed out if I didn't. Bullets started flying, the major yelled 'go, go, go'.... we jumped the curb and meridian in our Suburban, while honking at pedestrians and cars in our way. We drove down the sidewalk, with the pedal floored." Seattle District's Maj. Stephen Ward, Norm Skjelbreia and Jeff Qunell, and several members from other Army units were involved in an ambush in February in Iraq. Ward and Skjelbreia were traveling in the lead vehicle of a three-vehicle convoy. Both were slightly injured in the assault. Qunell's vehicle was following behind and he was unhurt.



Sid Jones stands next to "the Adam Tree," purported to be the tree with the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden in Iraq, thought by many to be the beginning of civilization, with intriguing names like Babylon and Persia.

## Team efforts stabilize Black Rock bank

(Continued from page 4)

project, John Coyle conducted eagle sighting each morning until March 1. The nesting period is considered to end March 1 and there are no nests within the project area to be concerned with so the daily recordings were no longer necessary past that date.

This work also included widening and improving existing roads to provide access to and through the work area and truck turnouts and turn-around points along the route. At the end of construction, temporary roads and turnouts will be removed or left in place and in a condition acceptable to the landowner. Turnouts in the haul road along the riprap structure will be graded out to provide sloped access into the lake for the owner of adjoining or underlying land.

After construction, the Corps will repair damage from hauling operations to the main truck route in Ponderay and restore it to its condition prior to the start of construction.



**Eric Winters coordinates construction work at Black Rock.**

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