



# NEWSCASTLE



## U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, LOS ANGELES CORPS OF ENGINEERS

Vol. 9 No. 12

INFORMATION EXCHANGE BULLETIN

December 16, 1976



TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE LOS ANGELES DISTRICT:

The very best wishes to you all for the Holiday Season.


This season of the year has special meaning for us all. It is a time of joy, hope, sharing, and good fellowship. It also is a time when we look back over our accomplishments of the past year, and forward to what the future may bring. It is at once a time of pleasure, and of rededication to our ideals.

Here in the Los Angeles District we have much to be proud of as we review the year just ending. We have accomplished a great deal in planning and construction of major projects which will make life better and safer for the citizens we serve.

We will move into the New Year with greater challenges, and greater opportunities for service as we look forward to meaningful work which will be beneficial to the people of Southern California, Arizona, and New Mexico - which, in fact, will be beneficial to all of the people of this Nation.

This can be a time of pride for us all. I trust it will also be a time of joy and pleasure.

Kay and I wish you all the very best for the Holidays, and for the New Year.

  
HUGH G. ROBINSON  
COL, CE  
District Engineer

Prepared IAW AR310-2

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## Incentive Awards

### ENGINEERING DIVISION

James Ueda

Adopted Suggestion - \$50

William Sablan

Adopted Suggestion - \$100

Aubrey Simons

Adopted Suggestion - \$50

Claude Wong

Certificate - Combined Federal Campaign

### CONSTRUCTION-OPERATIONS DIVISION

Robert Douglass

Adopted Suggestion - \$50

Ernest Perea

Outstanding Performance Rating and  
Special Act Award

### OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Wilbert Bayard

Adopted Suggestion - \$50

### PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY DIVISION

Max Morgenroth

Sustained Superior Performance

### BASE YARD

Richard Oddone

Adopted Suggestion - \$150  
(Group Award)

Mark Hofeldt

David Lester

Andrew Caples

Sustained Superior Performance

## TIME TO CHECK ANNUAL LEAVE

The leave year for LADO employees will end on January 8, 1977. If there is a possibility that you will lose any excess leave by that time, check with your timekeeper immediately to find out the amount of annual leave involved. Next, arrange with your supervisor to use this leave. Something to remember: any annual leave accrued above the amount of the employee's ceiling will be automatically forfeited as of January 9, 1977.

Forfeited excess annual leave may be restored under either of the two conditions listed below.

1. The District Engineer declares an exigency (an emergency or operational demand of such magnitude or significance that employees cannot be excused from duty to avoid forfeiture of annual leave).

- The annual leave was scheduled in writing prior to the exigency and at least three pay periods before the end of the leave year;

- The exigency precluded the use of the scheduled leave; and

- The cancelled leave could not be re-scheduled because of insufficient time remaining in the leave year.

2. The employee was on sick leave during the period initially scheduled in advance for annual leave.

- The period of illness interfered with the usage of scheduled annual leave; and

- The cancelled annual leave could not be rescheduled because of insufficient time remaining in the leave year.

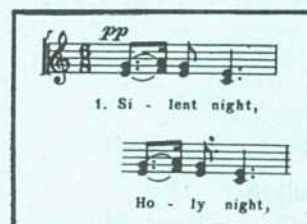
## "VISIONS of SUGAR PLUMS..."

Federal Building Music Society Carolers will sing again this year in the lobby of the Federal Building December 23, at 10:00 A.M.

Coordinators for the event are:

DeLoach Beaver	Chairperson, LADO
Charles Pyke	LADO
Corinne Johnson	IRS
Jessie Virgil	Customs-Music Director
Kathy Ayers	IRS - Accordionist

Many voices are still needed, especially tenors and bass. If you would like to join the group, call DeLoach at Ext. 5574. Rehearsals will be held on December 14, 16, 20, 21, and 22, from 3:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. in Room 3123.





# RETROSPECT - 1976

And with 1977 just around the corner, let's take a look at some of the highlights of LADO events of 1976.

LG W. C. Gribble, Jr., Chief of Engineers, participated in groundbreaking ceremonies of Indian Bend Wash project in Arizona. The project was selected as one of the top 10 outstanding engineering achievements of 1974 by the National Society of Professional Engineers. HARRY J. BAKER, Channels Section, FRANK W. HUBEL, and HARRY W. ULRICH, Survey Branch, RICHARD HEWITT, ROBERT PERKINS, Specs & Estimating, and MASAO SUGANO, Management Analysis Branch, retired. BETTY (REYNOLDS) BERGER became Chief, Management Analysis Branch.

LAD played host to South Pacific Division's District Engineers Conference. OSCAR TIRRE, Construction-Operations Division, retired after 35 years of service. And so did PHILIP BUNN, Auditor-in-Charge, L.A. Resident Audit Office, with 17 years of service. EARL THARALSON named Value Engineering Officer. The Corps of Engineers Bicentennial exhibit "Let Us Try" toured Southern California area.

ROBERT YAMAZAKI, Chief, Property Accounting Section, left for a one-year tour of duty in Saudi Arabia. COLONEL JOHN V. FOLEY, District Engineer, officiated at groundbreaking ceremony of recreational development project at Whittier Narrows reservoir. First monthly "Brown Bag" training session sponsored by the Federal Women's Program was held with John Redfern giving tips on effective interviewing techniques. Real Estate Division celebrated Cinco de Mayo in great style with about 250 District members enjoying great Mexican cuisine.

COLONEL HUGH G. ROBINSON, named new District Engineer succeeding Colonel John V. Foley, and will assume his new duties in July. LG JOHN W. MORRIS has been selected by the President to be the next Chief of Engineers, succeeding LG William C. Gribble. Huge crowd of District personnel attended farewell luncheon for Colonel Foley at Quiet Cannon Country Club. The 201st anniversary of the Corps was celebrated at Legg Lake with a Bicentennial barbeque. TOASTMISTRESS Club celebrated its 20th birthday. CARMINA SAGGAU, Real Estate Division, appointed as Spanish-Speaking Program Coordinator. Prado Dam now sporting a colorful Bicentennial look - a project by Corona High School students. Twenty-nine retirees from the Comptroller Office held their first annual reunion; DORIS HOLLISTER elected President. COLONEL JOHN V. FOLEY presented a set of rare, historical maps of the Western frontier and the U.S. to Old Mission Santa Barbara for inclusion in its archives. MARY DOLVE, Coastal Resources Branch, retired after 25 years of service; WILLIAM E. FRANKLIN, Real Estate Division, retired with 36 years of service; and DANIEL OLIVAS, Coastal Resources Branch, joined the ranks of the retired with 27 years of service. LAURENCE J. LAURO became Chief, Foundation & Materials Branch.

DUNCAN CURTIS reported for duty as District Personnel Officer. LUIS A. TREVINO, Base Yard, retired after 27-1/2 years; ARTHUR ATKINS, Water Resources Branch, retired after more than 30 years of service. Green belt rest area along Tujunga Wash flood control channel was dedicated.

DONALD SPENCER, Coastal Resources Branch, selected to attend a one year's training session at the University of Delft, Netherlands. The District's Halloween party held on October 22 was a huge success. SAM ACKERMAN, incognito, stumped them all.

Many activities were on the agenda for EEO Awareness Week- Oct. 18-22. GARTH FUQUAY, Chief of the Engineering Division, transferred to North Central Division in Chicago as Chief of that Division's Engineering Division. LADO drivers safe driving efforts resulted in a second place finish in the Fleet Safety Contest of the National Safety Council. A combination of visitors center and recreation building at Hansen Dam Recreation area was dedicated.

Two major storms struck desert areas on Sept. 10 and 24. Initial damage estimates were set at \$40 million damage to the public sector and \$128 million damage to the private sector, including agricultural losses. MORRIS SHEKLOW returned to the District as Auditor-in-Charge of Los Angeles Resident Audit Office. Results of the Combined Federal Campaign exceeded our goal of \$10,000 by \$600. TAICHI (LARRY) NISHIHARA temporarily promoted to Chief of the Engineering Division. Copies of LAD's history, going back to 1898, are available in the Public Affairs Office. District members commended for significant contributions for FY 1976-76T Cost Reduction Goals. JEANNETTE HARGRAVE, District Librarian, announced that the Library now has a reader-printer available. Signs of the times - new per diem rates announced for military and civilian personnel - from \$33 per day to \$35 per day for travel in Continental U.S., plus new rates for high cost areas. LILLIAN JOHNSON, after 31 years of Federal service, will retire from Procurement & Supply Division on December 31. And so will GENE K. WILLIAMS, Drafting Section, Design Branch, after 31 years of service.

And so another year in the annals of LADO goes down in the books.





## Refresher Course Set

A 12-week refresher course for the California Civil Engineering Registration Examination has been announced commencing January 25, 1977 through April 12, 1977, at Kellogg West Conference Center, Cal Poly University, Pomona. The course will be held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 10:00 P.M. The course fee is \$95.00 including course notes.

Sponsored by California State Polytechnic University Civil Engineering Department, and the California Society of Professional Engineers of Riverside, San Bernardino Chapter, the course will feature as lecturers selected registered civil engineers and staff of Cal Poly Civil Engineering Department.

Last filing date for the examination is December 27 with the examination scheduled for April 16, 1977. Registration for the course may be made on January 25, 7:00 P.M., Kellogg West Conference Center at the Pomona Campus of Cal Poly University. Additional information may be obtained from Mr. H. P. Seuberling, telephone (714) 598-4324.

Supervisors may nominate employees for attendance using Optional Form 170. See SPLC 350-1-2 for instructions on non-government training. It should be remembered that nominations must be approved in advance.

## LOST

Will the person who took volume VIII of the Rivers and Harbors and Flood Control Acts, 1962-68, from the Library, please return it ASAP. These laws are needed for use by all District personnel and this binder has now been missing for almost two months.

## Toastmasters

ESSAYONS TOASTMASTERS CLUB No. 988, announces its new slate of officers for the first six months of 1977. The semi-annual installation meeting will be held at noon, Thursday, January 6, in Room 7412. New officers are:

President	Gordon Reetz
Educ. V.P.	Jack Hutchinson
Admin. V.P.	Chris Sands
Secretary	Ted Yee
Treasurer	Jack Wilk
Sgts.-at-Arms	Ted Masigat -Chuck Evans

Incidentally, TOASTMISTRESS and TOASTMASTERS Clubs will hold their annual Joint Christmas meeting on December 16 at Little Joe's.

The traditional exchange of gifts between members of these clubs will give way this year to donations to the U.S. Marine Corps' annual drive, "Toys for Tots".

peace

## Be a DOVE

In large black type, the flyer urges: "Come back to school. Join your local DOVES Program and get back in the act. Join your local Dedicated Older Volunteers in Educational Services (DOVES) Program. Enjoy the personal satisfaction of working with elementary and secondary school students. And contribute to their increased achievement, self-image, interest and motivation. We have a place for YOU in all areas of the educational experience".

This is what it's all about. DOVES is a project of the L. A. City Unified School District Volunteer and Tutorial Programs Section. It seeks the participation of business, industry, government and labor in a combined effort with the schools to provide needed services for students, as well as significant and meaningful volunteer opportunities and recognition for experienced people from the working world.

According to Dr. Wilson Riles, State Superintendent of Public Instruction: "There are few things more relevant than a job. Students should be introduced to the widest possible career options and at an early age. Career decisions should be based upon competent guidance and concerted program design—not upon chance".

This is where pre-retirees and retirees can make a significant contribution in career education in the L.A. Unified School District, from the primary grades through secondary education and beyond. DOVES needs individuals with special talents, specialized knowledge in a particular profession or vocation, interesting hobbies or collections, skills, interest in tutoring students, or an interest in helping classroom teachers and other school personnel.

If interested in participating in the program, please fill out and mail the form below to the L.A. City Unified School District.

LOS ANGELES CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT	
Volunteer & Tutorial Programs	
450 North Grand Avenue - Room G-114	
Los Angeles, California 90012	
How can I help? Please send me more information about my local DOVES Program.	
Name _____	
Address _____	
City _____	
State _____	Zip _____

There is not time to retire  
There are no hands on our clocks  
and no dates on our calendar to  
mark the time to retire.



## HOLIDAY INSURANCE

The Christmas season is a joyous occasion, and a special time which brings warm expressions of love and friendship, and hopes for a bright future. Paradoxically, this is a time when too many hopes are shattered by tragedy. Many factors combine to make this a season for a large number of home and traffic accidents. The more common causes of Christmas accidents can be avoided by an awareness of the hazards. Some tips for a safer holiday are:

1. Keep Christmas tree trunks under water through the period the tree is on display.
2. Keep lights off when the tree is unattended.
3. Plan shopping, entertaining, and visiting far enough in advance to avoid rushing. Haste is especially ill advised at this time of year, when others are rushed also.
4. Avoid drinking to excess when required to drive. Plan to stay overnight if long celebrations are anticipated. Watch out for guests who may have overindulged. Have the guest stay overnight, or have someone else drop the guest off. Remember - the casual drinker is a more dangerous driver than the habitual drinker.
5. Select toys with care. Consider the age and ability of the child. Avoid toys with sharp corners or small parts that can be swallowed.

Your Safety Office extends best wishes to all employees for a happy, healthy, and SAFE holiday season.

## Lack Incentive ?

A frequent complaint about the civil service is that there is no incentive for outstanding ideas and performance - that mediocrity is encouraged.

A look at the record, however, shows that in fiscal year 1976 more than 131,000 Federal employees were motivated to contribute ideas and actions that resulted in more than \$333 million in tangible benefits to the Government, an amount equivalent to the Federal income taxes of 182,000 average taxpayers. This record compares very favorably to the private sector, which achieves substantially less tangible benefits than the Government does per dollar awarded. There is a continuing willingness to contribute among Federal employees, and top managers should be aware of and support the Federal Incentive Awards Program as a means to encourage and recognize outstanding performance and ideas.

## Court Leave

Under a new law that became effective October 1, Federal employees who appear in court as witnesses will be granted official (paid) court leave if the United States, the District of Columbia, or a State or local government is a party to the proceeding. (Details: Public Law 94-310 of June 15).

## Flash Flood - Prognosis

The heavy unnecessary loss of life among outdoor recreationists during the Big Thompson Creek, Colorado, flash flood last July, and at Nelson's Landing, Nevada, in September 1974, provided the stimulus for LAD's cooperation in the filming of a special documentary on flash floods with station KOOL-TV, Phoenix, Arizona.

Presented on Saturday, November 20, the 12-minute program featured Dr. Charles Pyke, LAD meteorologist. Dr. Pyke was filmed on location in a rugged canyon of the Superstition Mountains. He explained what a flash flood is, what causes it, and how outdoor recreationists can protect their lives in flash flood prone areas.

The program also featured special footage of the Big Thompson disaster taken for LAD by the Bureau of Reclamation. Other sites visited were Nelson's Landing and Apache Lake, Arizona. Three people were killed at Apache Lake when they ignored repeated warnings of an imminent flash flood in Crabtree Wash and continued to camp in an unauthorized area.

As a public education service, LAD in cooperation with the National Weather Service, designed and produced a four page booklet "Flash Flood - a Checklist for Survival". The booklet was made available to KOOL-TV viewers through announcements on the documentary and during the station's weather forecasts on the evening news. Intended for use by outdoor recreationists, the booklet describes the origin of a flash flood and provides eight suggestions for preventing loss of life in flash flood regions. Over 8,000 copies of the booklet are now being distributed in the Los Angeles area by the Southern California Automobile Association. The initial printing of 20,000 copies has been exhausted.

Plans are being made to distribute the booklet to the public through the National Parks and Monuments of the Southwest at the beginning of the flash flood season next April.



Christmas is here,  
Merry old Christmas,  
Gift-bearing, heart-touching, joy-bringing  
Christmas,  
Day of grand memories, king of the year!

- Washington Irving



## Credit Union

Your Credit Union extends best wishes to all for a joyous Holiday Season.

And as a reminder, 9% financing availability for new cars expires January 31, 1977.

### APPOINTED

LTC Robert H. Reinen, Deputy District Engineer, has been appointed chairman of the Engineering '77 Committee for the February Los Angeles area celebration of National Engineers Week.

### PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting was held in Gallup, New Mexico, on December 15 to discuss alternatives for flood control along the Puerco River. The plans generally consist of a system of levees or floodwall along the Puerco River. All plans would incorporate an under-construction channel which the New Mexico Department of Highways is building in conjunction with a stretch of Interstate 40, north of Gallup.

### HAPPY NOTE

Congratulations to Ray Perez, Drafting Section, on his November 6 marriage to the former Anna Marie Monzo.

### EEO NEWS

The Federal Women's Program Coordinator and the Spanish-Speaking Program Coordinator wish to take this opportunity to thank our committee members for working so hard and diligently to make the EEO Staff Christmas party held on December 9 a huge success.

To the following Committee members, we extend a very special "Thank you" and our wishes for Happy Holidays: Rosemarie Sandoval, Lorna Friddle, Virginia Collins, Sylvia Compos, Rey Perez, Frances Covington, Louis Rodrigo, DeLoach Beaver, Lupe Gonzales, Cherie McMillan, Diane Marbury, Susan Garcia, Ida Nagai, and Carol West.


We look forward to working with each of you in the coming year.

IDA SIMMS and CARMINA SAGGAU

## NEWSCASTLE

An information exchange bulletin published by the Public Affairs Office, Los Angeles District.

Perry Hume Davis II	Chief
Eleanor McCarthy	Editor

  
HUGH G. ROBINSON  
COL, CE  
District Engineer

## December Retirees

The District will bid farewell to Lillian Johnson, Procurement and Supply Division, on December 31 when she retires after 31 years of Federal service. Lillian came to LADO on May 7, 1958 and has had assignments in Property and Supply, Procurement, Freight Traffic, and currently as Administrative Officer. Well-known for her participation in Noontimers Toastmistress Club and other District activities, she has the distinction of being the first woman elected president of our Credit Union. She plans to spend her leisure time practicing old soft shoe routines and eventually resume her career in show biz. The very best to you, Lil, for a most rewarding retirement.

A cocktail party will be held in Lillian's honor on December 30, 4:30 P.M., at the Velvet Turtle, 708 N. Hill Street, Los Angeles; admission: \$4.00; no host cocktails; hors d'oeuvres will be served. For tickets call Ext. 5606 or Ext. 5679.

Gene K. Williams, Senior Engineering Draftsman, Drafting Section of the Design Branch, will retire on December 31 after 31 years of service which includes four and one-half years military service with the Navy in WWII. Gene spent most of his military service in the South Pacific with the Marines and Seabees where they established and manned a major aviation facility.

During the 22 years he has spent with the Corps as senior draftsman in the Engineering Division, he has received a number of awards and commendations for his outstanding work.

Gene's many friends in the District extend best wishes for a fulfilling retirement.

### ITEMS

Congratulations to Roman Zawadski, Construction-Operations Division, for successfully passing the bar examination.

Recuperating at home after a serious automobile accident in September, John Wood, Construction-Operations Division, Navigation Branch, would like to hear from District friends. His address is: 2156 Las Lunas, Pasadena, California. Both John and his wife are making progress, we are happy to report.

Congratulations to Ronald Wolfe, Economics Section, and his wife, Linda Marie, on the birth of their first child, Andrew Eugene, on November 29. Andrew weighed in at 8 lbs. 5-1/2 ozs.

We are sorry to report the death of Kenneth Bottorf, the first landscape architect of the District, and who later transferred to South Pacific Division.

Paul Van Dyne, who worked in the Military Design Branch, passed away November 24. He was 91 years old.