

Arkansas Highways

SUMMER 1994



Director's Message

Recently the Department co-sponsored the 1994 Arkansas Quality Initiative Conference and reaffirmed our commitment to a Quality Initiative Program. This commitment will impact each employee and will necessitate new ways of thinking at all levels within the Department.



Often we resist change until it becomes apparent that change is necessary in order to improve. Rarely do we have an opportunity to make changes.

We should have the vision that change can improve our methods of operation. We now have such an opportunity.

A Quality Initiative is not "change for change's sake" but logical change for the sake of continuous improvement. It is fueled by all of us working together as a team.

With the tremendous demand upon the resources of our Department, we must develop a system of empowerment and improvement that will allow us to deliver our service in an optimal fashion to our customers.

I am confident that you will join me in supporting AHTD's Quality Initiative Program.

DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

SUMMER 1994

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



L.W. "BILL" CLARK
CHAIRMAN



BOBBY HOPPER
VICE CHAIRMAN



HARRY BRANSCUM, JR.
MEMBER



JOHN "M" LIPTON
MEMBER



J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD
MEMBER

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COVER PHOTO: State Highway 7 in Newton County
BACK COVER: State Highway 58 in Sharp County
Photographs by John Jackson

Department Reorganization and Personnel Changes

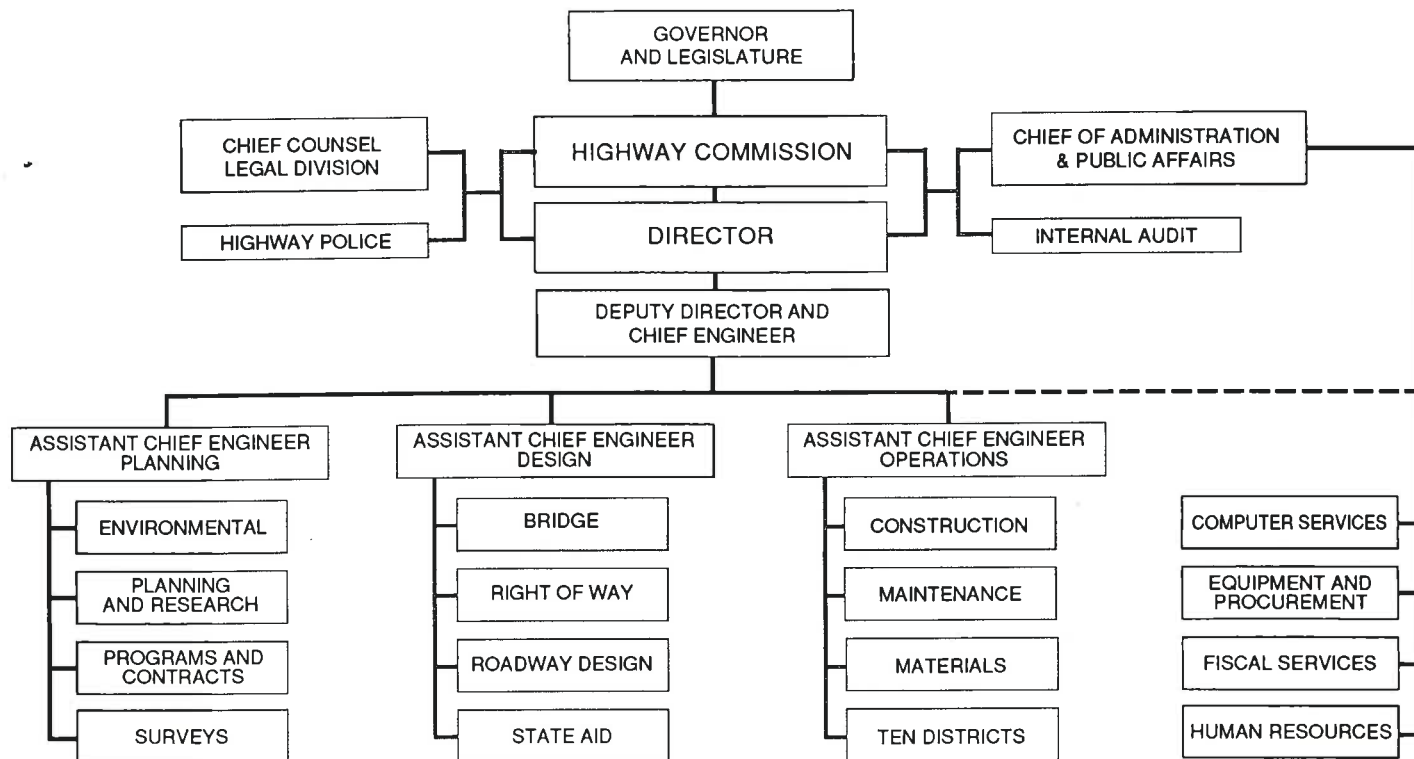
Shown below is the Department's organization chart which became effective May 16, 1994. This chart reflects the designation of the positions of Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, Chief of Administration and Public Affairs, and the re-designation of the position of Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning. In addition, the

Construction and Maintenance Division has been split to form two separate divisions. This change is to add emphasis to the Construction and Maintenance functions. The responsibilities of the former Traffic Division have been reassigned within the organization as follows: Traffic Services to the Maintenance Division, Traffic

Engineering to the Roadway Design Division, and Traffic Safety to the Programs and Contracts Division.

Computer Services, Equipment and Procurement, Fiscal Services, and Human Resources Divisions have been reassigned to the Chief of Administration and Public Affairs.

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT
ORGANIZATION CHART



Law Powers



Jane Wilson

Jane Wilson Promoted To Chief of Administration and Public Affairs

Jane Wilson, Division Head of Human Resources and Public Affairs, was promoted to Chief of Administration and Public Affairs effective May 12, 1994.

Wilson will serve as the Department's Civil Rights Officer and as the Grievance Hearing Officer.

She began working with the Department in 1981 as Assistant Per-

sonnel Officer and advanced to Personnel Officer in 1982. She became the first female division head in Department history when she was named Division Head of the Human Resources Division when it was created in 1987.

Wilson is a native of Conway and resides in Little Rock. She has two daughters Mary Kay and Darby.

Jim Barnett State Maintenance Engineer

Jim Barnett, Traffic Engineer, has been named as State Maintenance Engineer effective March 17, 1994.

He is a 1961 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and a 1963 graduate of Texas A&M in College Station with a Master's degree in Civil Engineering. He is a registered professional engineer.

Barnett began his career with the Department in 1960 and has served as Assistant Division Head of Planning and Research and the Traffic Division prior to being promoted to Traffic Division Head.

He and his wife Jan reside in Little Rock have three children Jay, Jennifer and Jill.



Jim Barnett

Allan Holmes State Construction Engineer

Allan Holmes will continue to serve as State Construction Engineer. He is a 1965 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and a Master's degree in Engineering. He is a registered professional engineer.

He began work at the Department

in 1965 and has served as Area Materials Engineer, Assistant Construction Engineer, District Engineer (Fort Smith), State Maintenance Engineer and State Construction and Maintenance Engineer.

He and his wife Shirley reside in Sherwood and have three children Marlon, Valerie and Alan.



Allan Holmes



Frank Vozel

Frank Vozel Promoted To Division Head of Programs and Contracts

Frank Vozel was promoted to Division Head of Programs and Contracts effective March 17, 1994.

He is a 1970 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and is a registered professional engineer. Vozel began his career with the Department in 1970 as a Civil Engineer II. He has served as Section Head of both Highway Safety and Traffic Engineering and Assistant Division Head of Traffic.

Leonard Hall Named District Six Engineer

Leonard Hall, Assistant Construction Engineer, was promoted to District Six Engineer at Little Rock effective May 12, 1994.

He is a graduate Civil Engineer from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and a registered professional engineer.

He began his career with the Department in the Maintenance Division. He has held the positions of Resident Engineer (Little Rock and Monticello), Staff Maintenance Engineer, District Six Maintenance Engineer, Assistant District Six Engineer and Staff Construction and Maintenance Engineer.



Leonard Hall

Wes Wimberly Hired As Section Head of Training and Safety

Wes Wimberly was hired June 1, 1994 to assume the responsibilities of Section Head of Training and Safety in the Human Resources Division. He has a Bachelor's degree in Communications and is currently pursuing a Master's degree.

Wimberly transferred to the Department from the Office of Personnel Management where he has been employed for the past five years. His responsibilities included developing and instructing training courses for the Governor's Quality Management Program and various other training courses. He worked for the State Crime Laboratory in safety and personnel and spent five years at the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy where he served as Training Supervisor of Field Operations.

He is a Certified Public Manager and has completed the Advanced Performance Management Course which is the highest level in Quality Management. Wimberly also helped develop the Arkansas Performance Management and Quality Management textbooks.



Wes Wimberly

Randy Ort Named Assistant Public Affairs Officer

Randy Ort, Public Hearing Specialist, was promoted to Assistant Public Affairs Officer effective May 26, 1994. He is a 1983 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a Bachelor's degree in Marketing.

Ort began work with the Department in 1988 as an Administrative Assistant II in the Public Affairs Office.



Randy Ort

“Partners In Quality”

1994 Quality Initiative Conference

The Honorable Jim Guy Tucker, Governor of Arkansas, delivered the luncheon address at the 1994 Arkansas Quality Initiative Conference. He emphasized his commitment to the quality programs in Arkansas and told the more than 350 transportation industry participants, "The concept of teamwork is critically important to us. We can achieve our best if we work together. We face common challenges and opportunities, but there is not a single challenge we face that is not within our ability to overcome."

*“We can
achieve
our best if we
work together.”*

**Governor
Jim Guy Tucker**



The Honorable Jim Guy Tucker
Governor of Arkansas

Governor Tucker continued his address by stressing the need for highway improvements and his support of the State Highway Commission's efforts to explore alternate funding sources in order to expedite highway projects.

The QI Conference, co-sponsored by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, the Federal Highway Administration, and the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, was held April 19-20.

The theme of this year's conference “Partners in Quality” involves the establishment of close relationships between public agencies and suppliers of services and products to those agencies. The “partners” agree in advance to cooperate closely in all aspects of the project to achieve a quality product.

AHTD Director Dan Flowers stressed his commitment to the Quality Initiative Program in his opening remarks, as did University Chancellor Dan Ferritor and FHWA Division Administrator Bill Richardson.

Dr. Tony Kane, FHWA Associate Administrator for Program Development, set the tone for the conference by highlighting the emphasis on quality in the Federal Highway Program.

Pete Wert, Vice President of



Governor Jim Guy Tucker (center) with Arkansas State Highway Commission Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, Chairman Bill Clark, and Commissioners Herby Branscum and Buddy Benefield.



Dr. Tony Kane
FHWA Associate Administrator for
Program Development

*"The development
and preservation of a
high quality
highway system
requires a close
partnership between
all stakeholders."*

Pete Wert



Pete Wert
President of Haskell Lemon Construction Co.
of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Haskell Lemon Construction Company of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and co-chair of the National Quality Initiative Steering Committee [representing the Associated Gen-

eral Contractors of America (AGC)], presented the National Policy on the Quality of Highways. This document, co-signed by the FHWA, American Associa-

tion of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), AGC, and several trade associations representing the highway

1994 Quality Initiative Conference Breakout Sessions

Session 1 - Pre-Design/Design

Moderator: Bob Crafton, President, Crafton, Tull and Associates
Facilitator: Max Bagwell, AHTD District Two Engineer
Corridor Preservation: Kim Kealer, AHTD Planning Engineer
Environment: Marion Butler, AHTD Division Head
Pavements: Dr. Kevin Hall, U of A Assistant Professor
Value Engineering: Phil McConnell, AHTD Assistant Division Head

Session 2 - Construction

Moderator: Ralph Hall, AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations
Facilitator: Leonard Hall, AHTD District Six Engineer
Innovative Equipment: Don Brock, President, Aztec Industries, Inc.,
SHRP Traffic Control: Jim Koan, FHWA Highway Engineer
Specifications: Jim Gee, AHTD Division Head; D.B. Hill, III, President, D.B. Hill Contractors, Inc. of Little Rock; Tom Rains, FHWA Area Engineer; and Ruben Liner, Vice President of Construction, APAC Arkansas, McClinton-Anchor Division.

Session 3 - Local Government Issues

Moderator: Jim Baker, Executive Director, Association of Arkansas Counties
Facilitator: Alan Meadors, AHTD Staff Research Engineer

Communications With Local Governments: Van W. Lee, Director of Engineering, City of Fort Smith
Improving Media Communications and Public Perception: Brenda Blagg, Columnist/Editor, The Morning News of Springdale
Management Systems: Steve Teague, AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning and Bryan Davis, AHTD Division Head

Session 4 - Quality Assurance/Quality Control

Moderator: Carl Kraehmer, FHWA Field Operations Engineer
Facilitator: William Tyler, AHTD District Three Engineer
Contractor Quality Control: T.D. Casey, Vice President, Jack Wood Co.
Acceptance Testing: Allan Holmes, AHTD Construction Engineer
Referee Sampling: Carl Kraehmer, FHWA Field Operations Engineer

Session 5 - Information Superhighway

Moderator: Jerry Stussy, AHTD Division Head
Information Networks: Bryan Davis, AHTD Computer Analyst
Electronic Information Sharing: Shelly Lee, FHWA Computer Specialist
Spatial Information Sharing: U of A Technical Director of the Center for Advanced Spatial Technology

"The key to success is building high performance teams through the partnering process."

Charles Cowan



Charles Cowan
Former Director
Arizona Department of Transportation

construction industry, states in part, "The development and preservation of a high quality highway system requires a close partnership between all stakeholders ...," and sets forth broad principles of cooperation.

Melanie Kennedy, State Quality Coordinator; Ken Lingle of Gates Rubber Company; and Bob Walters, AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Design, presented examples of how quality initiatives have achieved successful results in state agencies, private industry and at the Department.

The afternoon program con-

sisted of breakout sessions covering Pre-Design/Design, Construction, Local Government Issues, Quality Assurance/Quality Control and Information Superhighway. Each session consisted of a discussion with participants exploring how quality initiatives could contribute to a better product.

Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper and Commissioners Herby Branscum, Jr. and J.W. "Buddy" Benafield spoke at the banquet Tuesday evening.

During the Wednesday morning session, Dr. Walter LeFevre,

Director of the University's Mack-Blackwell Transportation Center (MBTC) and Dr. Robert Elliott, Head of the University's Civil Engineering Department, spoke of the roles the MBTC and the University of Arkansas play in the development of professional and quality transportation facilities.

Charles Cowan, a consultant from Washington and former Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation, was the keynote speaker. He stressed that the effective implementation and sustainment of a quality initiative in the construction industry is de-



AHC Chairman
L. W. "Bill" Clark



AHC Vice Chairman
Bobby Hopper



Commissioner
Herby Branscum, Jr.



Commissioner
J.W. "Buddy" Benafield



Dan Flowers
Director, Arkansas State Highway and
Transportation Department

*“Continuous quality improvement
is essential and achievable.”*

Dan Flowers

pendent on full participation of the entire construction team—owner, designer, contractor, subs, and suppliers. Systems and processes must be integrated with everyone working as one team toward common objectives. The key to success is building high performance teams through the partnering process.

The partnering concept has been employed by several organizations which are now reaping positive results such as improved employee morale, increased productivity, and reduced costs. Success stories were shared by representatives of two such organizations. Mark Massmann, Vice President of Kiewit Western Company, told the group of the partnering methods implemented by his company, and Grady Greene, District Secretary for the Florida Department of Transportation, described the success of quality initiatives within his organization.

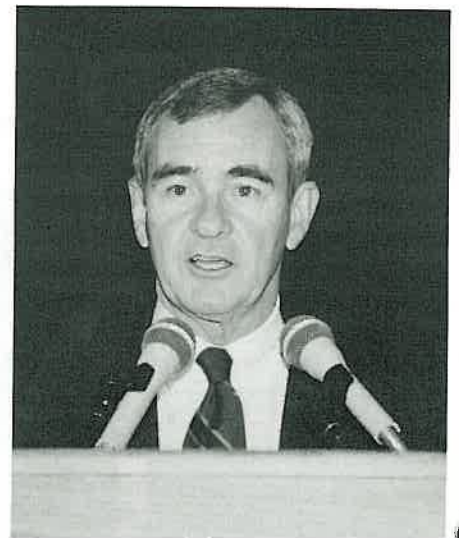
Bob Walters, AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Design, reported on the results of the breakout sessions at the conclusion of the conference.

The focus of the conference was summed up in AHTD Director Flowers' closing remarks. “Our business in transportation is be-

coming more and more complex. We have to use new and innovative tools to do the job successfully. The old way of doing business is fading out, and we have to think in a different way, we have to do things in a different way. Continuous quality improvement is essential and achievable.”



Bill Richardson
FHWA Division Administrator



Dr. Dan Ferritor
Chancellor
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville



Roger Almond
AHTD Deputy Director
and Chief Engineer



Bob Walters, AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Design and Ken Lingle, Area Manufacturing Manager, Gates Rubber Co.



Melanie Kennedy
State Quality Coordinator



Dan Flowers, AHTD Director; Joe Barnett, AHTD District Ten Engineer, Ralph Hall, AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations; and Commissioner Buddy Benafield.



Pete Wert, Vice President of Haskell Lemon Construction Co.; Dan Flowers, AHTD Director and David McClinton, APAC Arkansas, McClinton-Anchor Division.



Dr. Walter LeFevre, Director of the Mack-Blackwell Transportation Center



Dr. Robert Elliott, Head of the U of A Civil Engineering Department



Mark Massmann
Vice President and District Manager
Kiewit Western Company



Grady Greene
District Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation



Jane Wilson, AHTD Chief of Administration and Public Affairs
greet's Pete Wert, Vice President of Haskell Lemon Construction Co.



Valera McDaniel, AHTD Quality Management Coordinator
and Emanuel Banks, AHTD Assistant Resident Engineer.

State Highway 7 Designated As Arkansas' First Scenic Byway

More than 100 people braved cloudy skies and rainy weather in Russellville on Tuesday, April 5, for the dedication of the 194-mile stretch of Arkansas 7 as the State's first scenic byway.

The day began with two bus tours departing from the north and south ends of Highway 7. One bus left Harrison at 8 a.m. and headed south with stops at Jasper and the Rotary Ann Rest Area, north of Dover, before arriving in Russellville. The other bus departed Arkadelphia and headed

north with ceremonial stops in Hot Springs, Jessierville and Nimrod before rendezvousing in Russellville at 1 p.m.

Speakers at the final ceremony were: L.W. "Bill" Clark, Highway Commission Chairman; Richard Davies, Director of the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism; Mike Curran, Forest Supervisor, Ouachita National Forest; and Lynn Neff, Forest Supervisor, Ozark National Forest. Commissioner Clark said, "It is an extremely beautiful highway ... it is

fitting that Highway 7 become the State's first scenic byway."

Plans to pursue the designation of Highway 7 as a scenic byway were initiated in 1989, and a year later the Scenic 7 Byway Partners group was founded. The group consists of 20 organizations and government agencies interested in promoting the Highway 7 corridor as a tourist attraction.

Citizens were able to express their opinions on the designation at a public hearing held July 13, 1993 in Russellville. Bryan Davis,



(L-R) Richard Davies, Director of the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism, Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, Commissioners John "M" Lipton, Herby Branscum, Jr. and J.W. "Buddy" Benafield.



Highway Commissioners Clark, Branscum, and Lipton unveil the Arkansas Scenic Byway logo along with State Representative Lloyd George of Danville.

Planning and Research Division Head, commented, "The proposed section of highway meets all three of the national requirements for byway consideration: the route is already a state highway, a group of interested people are supporting the designation, and the byway contains many tourist-attractive

elements." The general consensus was that people were in favor of the proposal.

The Highway Department expects to spend \$1,000,000 over the next several years to enhance the highway. The U.S. Forest Service



Commission Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper

will spend \$500,000 to improve the Rotary Ann Rest Area in Pope County. International Paper Company will plant approximately 500 red maples along the route to enhance its beauty.

"The designation will make Highway 7 eligible for federal funds and will also draw nationwide attention to the area," com-



Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark



Director Dan Flowers, right, talks with Shelby Woods of Cranford Johnson Robinson Woods Advertising Agency, who coordinated the dedication activities.



Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr.

mented Dan Flowers, AHTD Director.

According to recent studies, driving for pleasure is the most popular recreational activity in the country.

Lisa Wolfe of the Department of Parks and Tourism said that in 1992, "25 percent of the State's

visitors listed sightseeing as their main activity."

Richard Davies said that he did not know how much tourism the new scenic byway would attract, but that it would help a lot. "Simply being on the map, people tend to give it credibility," he said.



Commissioner John "M" Lipton



Richard Davies
Director of Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism



Mike Curran
Forest Supervisor
Ouachita National Forest



Lynn Neff
Forest Supervisor
Ozark National Forest

Commissioners On The Go...



Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper addresses the Lincoln Kiwanis Club April 13, 1994.



(L-R) Commission Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, Commissioner Buddy Benafield, Mrs. Bill Foster, Commission Chairman Bill Clark, and Director Dan Flowers stand by a plaque in memory of the late Representative Bill Foster at the State Highway 321 dedication site in Cabot.



Commissioner Buddy Benafield, second from left, and Commissioner Bobby Hopper, far right, meet with members of the Walnut Ridge Chamber of Commerce March 15, 1994.



Commission Chairman Bill Clark speaks to the Downtown Little Rock Kiwanis Club May 3.



Commissioners Hopper, Clark and Herby Branscum, Jr. at the Conway Chamber of Commerce April 14.



Director Dan Flowers at the Fayetteville Kiwanis Club April 13, 1994.



Commissioner John Lipton addresses the Ashdown Rotary Club March 23.



Highway Commission Chairman Bill Clark, far right, and Ouachita National Forest Supervisor Mike Curran, far left, assist Leslie Curran in cutting the ribbon for the re-dedication of the Iron Springs Recreation Park along the Scenic Highway 7 Byway in Garland County. Also pictured are District Forest Ranger John Archer and Judy Neff, wife of Ozark National Forest Supervisor Lynn Neff.

Meeting of I-69 Proponents Held In Memphis

The concept of I-69, often referred to as the "Mid-Continent Highway," gained momentum as members of the I-69 Mid-Continent Coalition held their first annual meeting recently in Memphis.

The Coalition is composed of state officials and business supporters from Indiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. Approximately 100 people attended the meeting May 12 at the Brooks Museum of Art in Overton Park. The highway is listed as a "high priority corridor" in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991. The route will connect the cities of Indianapolis, Memphis, Shreveport, and Houston.

Arkansas Governor Jim Guy Tucker said a combined push by the eight states may help win federal approval for the project. "When you



Arkansas Governor Jim Guy Tucker, Tennessee Governor Ned McWherter and AHTD Director Dan Flowers

have this many states interested in a project, you enhance the prospect of getting Congress and the President to turn loose our money that's sitting in the Highway Trust Fund," Tucker emphasized.

Both Governor Tucker and Tennessee Governor Ned McWherter, who also attended the meeting, said their states support the project as a way to create jobs and boost the economy. "I-69 would open southeast Arkansas to economic development providing long-term benefits for the rest of our state," Tucker said.

Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark and Commission members John "M" Lipton and J.W. "Buddy" Benafield attended the meeting with Department Director Dan Flowers and Deputy Director and Chief Engineer Roger Almond.

Arkansas has assumed the role of the lead state in the coalition and the responsibility for coordinating the activities of the steering committee, composed of representatives from the eight states involved. Flowers told the gathering that a consultant has been selected to conduct a feasibility study which should take about 15 months to complete. "Once the study is complete, we can take our proposal to the federal government and request additional funding," Flowers said.

Arkansas sent an impressive delegation to the meeting. In addition to the Governor and highway officials, former Commissioner James Branyan, State Senator Kevin Smith, State Representative

Charlotte Schexnayder and Terry Sherwood, Executive Director of the Arkansas I-69 Coalition also attended.

Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, right, stresses the importance of I-69 to Arkansas and the country, as Commissioner John Lipton and Arkansas State Senator Kevin Smith look on.



Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, right, stresses the importance of I-69 to Arkansas and the country, as Commissioner John Lipton and Arkansas State Senator Kevin Smith look on.



Terry Sherwood
Executive Director, Arkansas I-69 Coalition



Dan Flowers, AHTD Director and Chairman of the Corridor 18 (I-69) Steering Committee responds to a media inquiry.

Dan Flowers Participates In “Capital for a Day” Program

Five hundred people assembled at a town hall meeting during the “Capital for a Day” program at Siloam Springs May 19, 1994.

The “Capital for A Day” series brings the Governor and state agency heads to various cities throughout the state in an effort to bring government to the people and listen to their concerns.

Governor Jim Guy Tucker, responding to a question regarding how long the Highway 71 project would take to complete said, “I’d like to see a road built so that those who pay for it can drive on it in this lifetime.” He also said he would not sit back and let the project take the estimated 12 years to be completed.

Director Dan Flowers addressed the question of completion for Highway 71 by saying, “The Commission is exploring alternate funding sources in order to speed up the time frame.” Flowers also explained to the audience that the Highway 71 project is a state and federal priority by virtue of being in the Interstate 49 corridor. He said that presently all but 16 miles of the project were under some stage of construction.



Dan Flowers
Director of Highways and Transportation



Governor Jim Guy Tucker responds to a question on Highway 71 at the “Capital for a Day” program in Siloam Springs May 19.

Governor Tucker followed Director Flowers' remarks by explaining how highways are funded traditionally and then discussed some of the options he and the Commission have been exploring, such as tolls, bond issues, and privatization. “We have been working on the problem for several months and it is a priority for all of us,” he emphasized. “The plans have been drawn and the people of Arkansas will have to decide how they want to fund the construction in order to complete the highway sooner,” he continued.

Following the town hall meeting, Director Flowers stayed overnight with AHTD Area Maintenance Supervisor Bill Harbison and his family in Gentry.

The next morning Flowers visited with the Maintenance Crew at the Area Headquarters and listened to their concerns and suggestions.

Flowers has also attended "Capital for a Day" programs in Nashville, Prescott, DeQueen, Pocahontas, Newport, Walnut Ridge and Harrison.



Commission Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, left, Director Dan Flowers, right, and Bill Harbison, Area Maintenance Supervisor for Benton County at Gentry



Director Flowers pours a cup of coffee for Art Janes, Skill Trades Trainee of the Gentry Maintenance Crew.



(L-R) Robert Pack, Crew Leader, and Cecil Jordan, Area Headquarters Attendant visit with Director Flowers.

Students Speak Out On Litter

by Crystal Clark, Public Affairs Office

A recent series featured in Crossett's local newspaper, *The Ashley News Observer*, generated a lot of interest. The series published essays written by Crossett students about the litter problem and what can be done to resolve it.

Five schools were involved: Anderson Elementary, Hastings Elementary, Price Elementary, Norman Junior High, and Daniel Middle School. Approximately 300 students participated and the best five or six essays from each school were submitted to the local newspaper for publication.

Chris Jordan, a fifth grader at Price Elementary, summed up the problem by saying, "Some people are lazy and throw their trash on the highway instead of in a trash can."

Although the Crossett Area Chamber of Commerce sponsors an annual Spring Clean-Up Drive, litter seems to be a growing concern to many people in the community.

The students had several suggestions for alleviating the problem. Some thought that the city-wide cleanup should be more than once a year. Many also suggested raising the fine for littering, as well as enforcing the law more aggressively. "You never hear about fines being given out," said Brad Walsh, an eighth grader at Norman Junior High. "None of the laws are enforced."

When asked what should be done to punish litterers, Clint Knighton, an eighth grader at Norman Junior High, replied, "Send them to Singapore."

"Everybody needs to pitch in and help or someday our world will look trashy," said Kimberly Guthrie, a fourth grader at Hastings Elementary.

Janice Clark, a retired reporter for the Crossett paper, is responsible for starting the project. After

noticing an article entitled, "Students Celebrate Newspaper in Education Week," Ms. Clark wrote to the editor suggesting that teachers guide students to focus their thoughts on highways. "They might learn that writing can be an effective tool for solving problems. I think this should be dramatized," Ms. Clark stated. "Hopefully the kids can teach their parents better."



Janice Clark



ANDERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 2nd GRADE
 (L-R) Mallory Reither, Mark Terrell, Ashish Naran, Chance Morris, Grant Jackson, and Tiara Tucker



HASTINGS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 4th GRADE
 (L-R) Miriam Buffington, Roxane Hopper, Kimberly Guthrie and Dane Warren



PRICE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
 (L-R) Dorothy Loftis, 5th grade teacher, Chris Jordan, Jamie Parker, Alex Ioria and Jim Knighton, Principal.



DANIEL MIDDLE SCHOOL - 6th GRADE
 (L-R) Buddy Ely, Staci Miller, Sara King, Tara McDaniel and Cody Kubiak



NORMAN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL - 8th GRADE
 (L-R) Jennifer Ebert, Leo Neblett, Nancy Gresham, Brad Walsh, and Clint Knighton

Department Conducts Three Public Hearings

HIGHWAY 9B AT MORRILTON

A vocal crowd attended the open forum public hearing covering proposed plans to widen Highway 9B in Morrilton March 1.

Mayor Jim Sitton requested the hearing to address citizen concerns about the project. The proposal would add a center turn lane to Highway 9B from Highway 64 to

Highway 247. Residents along the route expressed their opposition and directed many of their comments to the Mayor and members of the City Council.

The Mayor responded that he did not favor the current proposal. He suggested minor modifications at several intersections to accom-

modate turning movements and correct drainage problems. Department representatives said the Mayor's suggestions would be considered along with other comments received at the hearing before a final decision is made.

HIGHWAY 62 AT EUREKA SPRINGS

Over 230 citizens attended a public hearing in Eureka Springs May 24 to comment on alternates being considered for the widening of Highway 62. Comments varied widely from ardent support to extreme opposition.

Four new construction alternates were presented at the hearing along with a "No Action" alternative. The new construction alternates add a center turn lane through all or most of Highway 62 between the Highway 23 North intersection and East Mountain Drive.

Participants at the hearing were informed that a final decision regarding which alternate to pursue would be made after their com-

ments were evaluated and reported to the Federal Highway Adminis-

tration. This is expected to take approximately four to six months.



Mike Webb, Wendy Welch, left, and Brenda Price, right, of the Environmental Division listen to a resident's concerns about the widening of Highway 62 in Eureka Springs.

HIGHWAY 8 EXTENSION AT WARREN

The crowd was small but enthusiasm high at a public hearing held June 7 in Warren to discuss the proposed extension of Highway 8. About 35 people attended with the vast majority clearly in favor of the project.

"This extension will accomplish two needs for our community and county," said State Senator Jim Scott of Warren. "First, it

will combine the truck traffic from Highways 8 and 15. Secondly, it will further our work toward a north-south artery from Pine Bluff through Warren to El Dorado with connections to Ruston, Louisiana and I-20.

State Representative Marian Owens of Warren also attended the hearing and expressed her support for the project. "I would hope

that construction could begin at the earliest opportunity."

"The City of Warren supports this project and thanks the Highway Department for its efforts to see it completed," said Greg Reep, Mayor of Warren. "It will improve the safety and quality of life for all our citizens."

Calvin Peevy Retires From Department



AHTD Director Dan Flowers presents Calvin Peevy his retirement plaque as Mrs. Peevy looks on.

Calvin Peevy, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations retired May 18, 1994. A retirement brunch in his honor was hosted in the Central Office Auditorium May 17. A host of family, friends, co-workers and well-wishers were present for the occasion.

Dan Flowers presented Peevy with a 35-year service plaque and Ambassador of Good Will certificate. Bob Walters, Assistant Chief Engineer for Design, presented him with a 35mm camera, a gift from staff employees.

A special open house was held May 18 in Peevy's office so that friends and co-workers could drop by for a visit and wish him well.

John Bailey Leaves To Head Arkansas State Police

On Friday, May 27, 1994, Highway Police Chief John Bailey was honored with a farewell reception in the Central Office Auditorium. Bailey's departure was due to his appointment by Governor Jim Guy Tucker to serve as Director of the Arkansas State Police.

Opening remarks were made by Highway Commissioners Herby Branscum, Jr., John "M" Lipton and J.W. "Buddy" Benafield. Director Dan Flowers recapped Bailey's career and praised his performance as Highway Police Chief.

Special guests at Bailey's reception included Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater and members of the State Police Commission and command staff.



John Bailey and Calvin Peevy extend best wishes to each other.



AHP Captain George Coffman presents Chief Bailey with a bronze eagle on behalf of officers and staff members of the division.

Congratulations Seniors!



The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department congratulates the high school and college graduates who are children of employees or student employees.



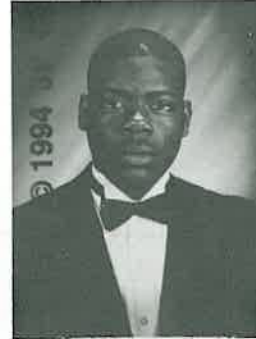
Angela Akers
Benton High School
Joe and Judy Akers
Computer Services



James A. Allbritton
Pine Bluff High School
Jim Allbritton
District 2



Julie Marie Beckwith
Hot Springs High School
Bonnie L. Beckwith
District 6



Benjamin Bernard Bennett
J.A. Fair High School
COE Student
Human Resources



Tonya Bennings
Sheridan High School
Bill and Brenda Wall
Materials



Troy Berry
Greene County Tech
Bob and Linda Faulkenberry
District 10



Michael William Bodiak
Little Rock Central
John Bodiak
Planning and Research



Amanda Jo Bonds
Mansfield High School
J.L. and Beverly Bonds
District 4



Jennifer Buchanan
Dover High School
Kenneth Buchanan
District 8



Tina Bullock
DeWitt High School
Mr. and Mrs. A.G. Bullock
District 2



Holly Burr
Harrison High School
Everett and Mary Burr
District 9



Ashley Brent Clark
Marshall High School
Randy and Phyllis Clark
District 9



David Lee Clements
Central Arkansas Christian
Charles and Debbie Clements
Roadway Design



Kimberly Ann Cofer
Fountain Lake High School
Ron and Elaine Cofer
Roadway Design



Leslie Fendley Collins
Arkadelphia High School
Duel and Joanna Fendley
District 7



Udana K. Darkins
Holly Grove High School
David Darkins
District 10



Joni Davidson
Bergman High School
Joe and Melba Davidson
District 9



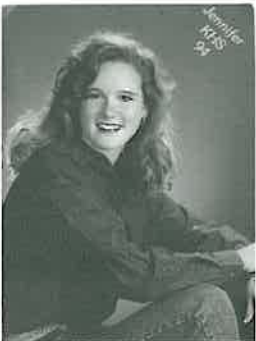
Tameka De-Unandra Dillard
Parkview Arts/Science Magnet
Louis and Debra Dillard
Maintenance



Melanie Elcan
Lonoke High School
Paul and Carolyn Elcan
Planning and Research



Kristie Falwell
Bald Knob High School
Mike and Rose Ann Falwell
District 5



Jennifer Ficht
Kingston High School
Fred Ficht
District 9



Leigh Fulton
Harrison High School
Ralph and Kay Fulton
District 9



Russell J. Gossien
J.A. Fair High School
Dale Gossien
Materials



David A. Goff
Springdale High School
James W. Goff
District 4



La'Cole D. Graham
McClellan High School
COE Student
Programs and Contracts



Mike Green
Malvern High School
George and Virginia Green
Materials



Heather Harvey
Greenbrier High School
Wayne Harvey
District 6



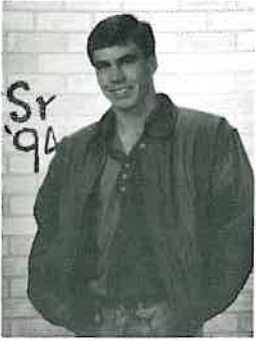
Michelle Dawn Holt
Harrison High School
Rex and Ruth Holt
District 9



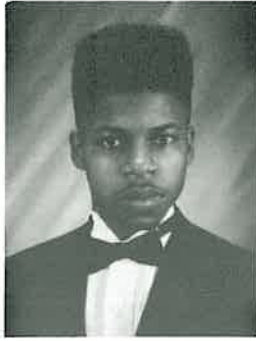
Johnathan Horton
Marshall High School
Johnney and Anna Horton
District 9



Jessica Hunter
Stephens High School
M.W. Hunter
District 7



Bart Hyde
Greene County Tech
Dairl and Brenda Hyde
District 10



John F. Isom, Jr.
Little Rock Central
John F. Isom
Environmental



Joe Allan Johnson
Mt. Pleasant High School
Chris and Mary Jo Johnson
District 5



Angela Kendrick
Wilbur D. Mills High School
COE Student
Human Resources



Greg Killough
Greenbrier High School
Wayne and Aurelia Harvey
District 6



Andrea Knowles
Benton High School
Frank and Janean Knowles
Human Resources



Latrice Lee
McClellan High School
COE Student
Surveys



Lena Littlejohn
Russellville High School
Clinton Littlejohn
District 8



Earla Martin
Hamburg High School
Paula McGilton
District 2



Casey McCarthy
Bryant High School
Debra Schneider
Planning and Research



Tausha McCollum
Highland High School
Clyde McCollum
Maintenance



Julie C. McConnell
Bryant High School
Phil and Jill McConnell
Roadway Design



Kellen D. Meador
Henderson State University
Pfc. and Mrs. Thomas Meador
Highway Police



Tonya Meyer
Lincoln High School
Mr. and Mrs. Connie Meyer
District 4



Terri Moore
Wynne High School
Wayne and Thresia Hamilton
District 1



Tamika L. Myers
J.A. Fair High School
Waymon and Lenora Harris
Fiscal Services



Brian Keith Parks
Marshall High School
George and Judy Parks
District 9



Angela Pate
Prescott High School
Debbie Pate
District 3



Dallas Payne
Vilonia High School
Patty Anthony
Surveys



Crystal Porter
Greene County Tech
John and Betty Porter
District 10



Marsha Michelle Pratt
Pea Ridge High School
H.M. and Lillian Pratt
District 9



Jeff Prewitt
Bryant High School
Charles and Judy Prewitt
Fiscal Services



Jennifer Nicole Price
Ridgecrest High School
Garry Price
District 10



Alicia Qualls
Southside High School
Deborah Qualls
District 5



Amanda Raines
White Hall High School
Earl and Pamela Raines
Materials



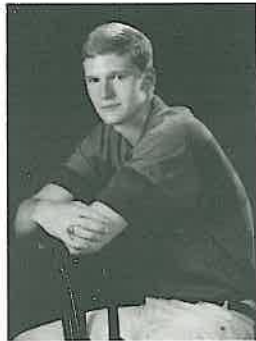
Brooke Rea
Marshall High School
Joe and Kathy Rea
District 9



Troy Reed
Springhill High School
Donna Snyder
District 3



Jodi Rhodes
Hope High School
Jim and Janet Rhodes
District 3



Brad Schales
Highland High School
Dual and Barbara Schales
Maintenance



Kelly Sumner Stanley
UAMS
J.P. and Frankie Jo Sumner
Bridge



Amanda Tribo
Mount St. Mary's Academy
Jim and Kay Tribo
Bridge



Margaret Trost
Ouachita Baptist University
Jim and Sue Trost
Construction



Marc Wake
Prescott High School
Johnny and Cindy Wake
District 3



Bradley Michael Webb
Mississippi State University
Mike and Cindy Webb
Environmental/Roadway Design



Keith M. West
University of Central Arkansas
George and Brenda West
Surveys



David Christopher Wilson
Murfreesboro High School
Roy and Regina Wilson
District 3

AHTD Mailbag

Quality Initiative Conference

April 22, 1994

To: Dan Flowers, AHTD Director

On behalf of the Washington, Region and Division Offices of FHWA, all of whom were represented at the Quality Initiative Conference at Fayetteville earlier this week, I wish to thank you personally, as well as those at AHTD, who worked so diligently to make the Conference the overall success it obviously was. From start to finish it was clearly a class act.

FHWA was proud to have been a co-sponsor of the event along with AHTD and the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville (UA). By all accounts, the Conference theme of "Partners for Quality" was on target; since I have heard nothing but favorable commentary from participants from AHTD, FHWA, UA, consultants, local governments, contractors and suppliers. The Conference provided something of benefit to everyone.

As was said many times, the Conference was a beginning and not a culmination of the quest for total quality throughout the highway and transportation community. There is much work ahead for all of us in the continual pursuit for excellence.

The AHTD, within the past year, has initiated many efforts clearly reflecting the Department's dedication to quality. I will cite just a few below:

1. Sponsored an AASHTO QC/QA Construction Workshop in Hot Springs last December. A follow-up to this meeting will be held in Little Rock in May. The AHTD is among the nation's leaders in the move toward performance based specifications.
2. Adopted Minute Orders pertaining to Partnering and Value Engineering (VE).
3. Hosted an AASHTO Human Resources Committee Conference on Diversity in Little Rock in September.
4. Held a workshop on crumb rubber, well attended by the contracting community, in July.
5. Conducted statewide public meetings to inform attendees of transportation planning procedures.

The above list could be expanded considerably but the examples given graphically indicate the AHTD is a dynamic, aggressive department wholly dedicated to providing top-notch transportation for the travelling public.

As we have recently discussed, in order to expand the quality program, it will be desirable to reactivate the AHTD/FHWA Quality Council. Many benefits have accrued through



the Council's guidance and much more can still be accomplished.

FHWA looks forward to continuing our "Partnership for Quality" in the months ahead.

Sincerely yours,
William D. Richardson
Division Administrator, Region 6
Federal Highway Administration

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April 21, 1994

To: Dan Flowers, AHTD Director

Congratulations to you and your staff for conducting an outstanding conference. The 1992 conference two years ago was so much better than the one in 1990 that I did not believe you could improve it again so much; but you did. The speakers you brought in were outstanding and the ones from your Department did a great job as well. You can be quite proud of this accomplishment.

More than anything else, I was very impressed with a new progressive and open atmosphere within your Department. I have always felt that AHTD was a very good state highway department; but you are clearly moving to a new level of excellence. I guess we can mark it down to continuous quality improvement.

Please convey my congratulations and thanks to all of your people for doing such an outstanding job. Their work also made us look better since we were "standing in their reflection."

Sincerely,
Robert P. Elliott, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor and Department Head
Department of Civil Engineering
University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

April 22, 1994

To: Dan Flowers, AHTD Director

I appreciate the opportunity to speak and participate in your "Partners for Quality" conference, April 19 and 20.

You have enhanced the implementation of the QM principles and practices through your visible commitment and support.

Your agency is an example to all of state government and the many public sector employees who want to serve the people of Arkansas in a better and more timely way.

Sincerely,
 Melanie Kennedy
 State Quality Management Coordinator
 Arkansas Dept. of Finance
 and Administration
 Office of Personnel Management

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April 22, 1994

To: Dan Flowers, AHTD Director

Many thanks for the invitation to be part of the Arkansas Quality experience. I really enjoyed the hospitality and warmth of your staff and of the audience.

Thanks again to all of my good friends in Arkansas.

Pete Wert
 Haskell-Lemon Construction Co.
 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

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April 22, 1994

To: Dan Flowers, AHTD Director

We have been to every short course (seminar) sponsored by the AHTD and without a doubt the one held this week (Quality Initiative Conference) was the best ever. Congratulations on a very fine job.

Sincerely,
 Bob Crafton
 Crafton, Tull & Associates, Inc.
 Rogers, Arkansas

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April 20, 1994

To: Jane Wilson, Division Head of Human Resources and Public Affairs

I want to thank you and your staff for the quality job in organizing and handling the Quality Initiative Conference in Fayetteville.

This extra effort helped make the Conference a "big" success.

Roger Almond
 AHTD Deputy Director
 and Chief Engineer

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April 21, 1994

To: Jane Wilson, Division Head of Human Resources and Public Affairs

I just wanted to take a minute to let you know that I thoroughly enjoyed the 1994 Quality Initiative Conference held this week in Fayetteville. I feel that you and your staff did an excellent job.

Ralph Blackwell
 AHTD Staff Construction Engineer

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Appreciation for Snow and Ice Removal

April 25, 1994

To: Dan Flowers, AHTD Director

On behalf of our department and commission, I am enclosing a resolution thanking your entire organization for your efforts during the February ice storm.

I know there were lots of folks who responded to get our bridge back in operation and we appreciate their extra efforts during some of the worst weather conditions imaginable. Please pass my compliments along to all that helped out.

Richard W. Davies
 Executive Director
 Arkansas Dept. of Parks and Tourism

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, In December of 1992, the Union Pacific Railroad donated 73 miles of abandoned right of way to the Department of Parks and Tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department was autho-

rized by the Arkansas State Highway Commission to provide \$600,000 in Federal Enhancement Funds for the purchase of the rail from Snowlake to Cypress Bend upon request from the Department of Parks and Tourism. Further, the Director was authorized to enter into an agreement with the Department of Parks and Tourism to maintain the railroad bridges and trestles; and

WHEREAS, in April 1993, a maintenance agreement was signed between the Department of Parks and Tourism and the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department; and

WHEREAS, the railway corridor was formally named by the State Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission as *The Delta Heritage Trail*; and

WHEREAS, on February 27, 1994, an ice storm caused a long-term power outage and the liftspan bridge over the White River lowered which blocked the entire McClellan-Kerr navigation system; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department responded quickly and lifted the bridge the following day and has maintained the lighting system until power was restored; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department also quickly responded to improve the road conditions during the recent icy weather throughout Arkansas.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arkansas State Parks, Recreation and Travel Commission would like to extend its appreciation to the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department and the Arkansas State Highway Commission for their quick response and continued support during the February 1994 ice storm.

This Resolution adopted by the Arkansas State Parks, Recreation and Travel Commission on this 18th day of February, 1994 in the City of Osceola, Arkansas.

Arkansas State Parks, Recreation and Travel Commission
Charles Yeargan, Chairman

Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism
Richard W. Davies, Executive Director

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February 11, 1994

To: Lawrence Fletcher, District 8 Engineer

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Smitty Bonds and his highway crew for the excellent job they have done taking care of the highways in Van Buren County during the recent ice storms. In my opinion they went above and beyond the call of duty in keeping the highways as safe and passable as they did for the motoring public. They also assisted our department and the Arkansas State Police whenever possible.

Mike Bridges, Sheriff
County of Van Buren
Clinton, Arkansas

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February 21, 1994

To: Ray Woodruff, District 1 Engineer

On behalf of the citizens of Helena and its officials, we wish to express our sincere appreciation for all that you and your personnel did during the ice storm of 1994. This city and its residents could not possibly have recovered so quickly had it not been for your efforts.

We also wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of your families for allowing you to be away from home during this time.

Again... thank you for being such a good neighbor.

Sincerely,
Joann D. Smith, Mayor
City of Helena

.....

March 11, 1994

To: William Tyler, District 3 Engineer

During the ice storm we had a few weeks back, it became necessary for me to go to Murfreesboro. Coming back, the roads were solid ice and if it had not been for the work of the Pike County Maintenance Crew, I would have been stranded on the road somewhere between Murfreesboro and Kirby. This is the only time I can ever remember the State Highway Department responding this quickly to adverse weather conditions.

My thanks and compliments to your new supervisor and his crew. I have the store and station here at Star of the West with a little extra room. When it is unhandy to move your machines further, you are welcome to leave them here.

Thank you.

Roger Fleming

.....

February 12, 1994

To: William Tyler, District 3 Engineer

On Wednesday, February 9, 1994 the highways in Pike County became covered in ice and sleet. Due to the quick response of Mr. Richard Wheeler, Area Maintenance Supervisor, and his crew in the removal of sleet from the highways when it started to accumulate and spreading chemicals on the bridges and icy places, we had only three weather-related accidents on the highways in Pike County. I think this was good and can only be the result of the hard work of the crew of the local Highway Department.

I think Mr. Wheeler should be commended for a job well done.

Corporal Jerry W. White
Arkansas State Police

.....

February 10, 1994

To: Jim Chaney, District 5 Engineer

The participation of your personnel in Cleburne County during the recent ice and snow storm in January was greatly appreciated. Your people's professionalism, coordinating and cooperation with the Arkansas State Police ensured that logistical and impromptu disruptions to the motorist of this state were minimized. Only maximum efforts, as you provided, could produce the positive comments I received from the troopers assigned to that area.

Although the Arkansas State Police has benefited directly and indirectly from your agency's service in the past, we have been remiss in expressing our gratitude. However, the service you rendered was noted and the State Police would like to give a special thanks to all your personnel and especially to Area Maintenance Supervisor Ralph Buchanan and Crew Leader Harold Carr.

Would you please pass on to all your employees involved during the harsh inclement weather, who worked so diligently to keep our highways open and traffic moving, a special thanks from us.

Thanks again for a job well done and if the Arkansas State Police can be of service to you or your staff let us know.

Sincerely,
Dwight Tosh, Captain
Commander of Troop B
Arkansas State Police
Newport, Arkansas

.....

February 18, 1994

To: Joe Barnett, District 10 Engineer

You and your entire staff are to be complimented on the effort extended to keep the highways open during the recent adverse weather. We are fortunate to have highway employees who are concerned about the safety of the citizens, and who realize the importance of keeping the highways open, so people can go on with their daily activities.

I appreciate the leadership you provide.

Sincerely,
William B. Fisher, President
CEO, Redbook Florist Services

Letters of Commendation

February 16, 1994

To: William Tyler, District 3 Engineer

On behalf of the Saratoga Community I would like to thank you and your crews for the road maintenance around Saratoga.

The entrance to the Saratoga Post Office was a danger until the repair was done to the shoulder of Highway 355. The crews were fast and efficient and I would like them to know how much we all appreciate them.

Thank you for your interest in our hardship. If the USPS may help you with your mail service, please do not hesitate to call us.

Sincerely,
Glenda A. Burkham, Postmaster
Saratoga, Arkansas

.....

March 1, 1994

To: Jim Chaney, District 5 Engineer

This letter should have been written three years ago. I asked one of your employees to help me with a drainage problem in the town of Griffithville. The place is located on the south side of Highway 11 at the intersection of Highway 385 and Highway 11. This was on the gravel (county) road side of Highway 11. I asked the county if they would clean out the ditch, they informed me it was the State Highway Department's job. A state employee said it was the county's job, but when I took the problem to Gene Lee at Searcy, he said "meet me on location and we would see." As soon as he looked at the problem, he stated "it's a job that needs to be done." The next day it was taken care of.

Several things have happened in Griffithville since that first event; two more incidents have occurred. First, Gene and Charles were planning to replace some culverts on Highway 385 and Highway 11. Because I had a crew coming in to

blacktop some city streets, they moved their schedule up to accommodate the town.

The second thing was Gene read in the paper that the town was having a Fourth of July fish fry, and had invited several state dignitaries. He and Charles had mowing crews on all state highways leading into the town of Griffithville and the place looked very nice. This mowing has been done for three years in a row without either being reminded.

Three years ago I did not know Gene Lee, Glen Daugherty, Charles Carruth or Dennis Nixon. I am proud to call these gentlemen colleagues and friends. They are conscientious, trustworthy and dependable. I would appreciate your passing on my appreciation and commendation to these individuals for doing their jobs in such an outstanding manner.

Gene Lee is the most dedicated, professional state employee that I have met and deserves to move ahead in the Arkansas State Highway Department.

Sincerely,
W.L. McWilliams
Mayor of Griffithville

Editor's Note: Gene Lee, Area Maintenance Supervisor, and Glen Daugherty, Area Headquarters Attendant are from the Searcy Maintenance Crew which maintains Highway 11 and Charles Carruth, Area Maintenance Supervisor, and Dennis Nixon, Crew Leader, are from the Bald Knob Maintenance Crew which maintains Highway 385.

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March 10, 1994

To: Jim Chaney, District 5 Engineer

I am writing in regards to one of your employees, Tommy Harper. If he hadn't gone beyond the call of duty our motor home would have burned to the ground.

We were parked in the rest stop south of Batesville about ten miles out on Highway 167. We were unaware that our generator was on fire. He saw the smoke and came up. The generator was in flames and the luggage compartment beside it was in flames. It looked hopeless and there was a chance that it would blow up from the fuel.

There were two trucks parked there and not one truck driver offered any help but Tommy stayed and pumped water and ran down and got a hose for us. We were able to put the fire out with only damage to the generator and the compartment beside it.

He came back up later when he saw that we were still there and ran my husband to the parts store because we were leaking fuel and couldn't plug the line up. We were able to get back on the road and make it back to Mountain Home just before the roads became impassable.

If it wasn't for Tommy Harper our motor home would

have burnt to the ground and also if it weren't for him we wouldn't have made it home. We would have been stranded on the road without a generator.

I now believe in guardian angels! You are very lucky to have such a man in your employment. A lot of people wouldn't have bothered to be as helpful. He takes his job seriously and does it with pride. Thank you for hiring such a wonderful man. We had only bought the motor home the week before and had spent our savings on it. We were only taking it out a couple of days to see how things worked. Well we found out. Even if the insurance gives us trouble we feel lucky that we still have a motor home and can repair it someday. We didn't have to watch our savings go up in smoke. Please give Tommy our thanks.

With gratitude,
Dianne and Lindsay Dent
Mountain Home, Arkansas

Editor's Note: Tommy Harper is the Rest Area Attendant at the rest stop on Highway 167 and works for the Independence County Maintenance Crew.

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March 7, 1994

To: Ralph Hall, District 6 Engineer

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the outstanding professional guidance and advice that Mr. Dave Harding recently rendered me.

Approximately three months ago, I started a land development of five acres in Cabot, Arkansas. In developing the land I was required to process my development plans through the Cabot Planning Commission and, in turn, through the Arkansas Highway Department. Naturally, the city planning commission required highway department action(s) prior to their approval/disapproval.

Consequently, it is with pleasure that I pass my sincere appreciation for the outstanding services I received from your highway department manager. Please convey my thoughts to Mr. Harding, as well as to his department chief.

Sincerely,
James F. Rye
Rye Subdivision

Editor's Note: Dave Harding is the Permit Officer for District 6.

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April 14, 1994

To: Harold Beaver, District 4 Engineer

I would like to offer a special thanks from Tyson Foods for the changes at the intersection of Highway 109/393, both modifications to the intersection and as far as the turning

radius on Highway 393 and the truck turning signs on Highway 109 N/S.

This should allow trucks entering and leaving Highway 109 to and from Highway 393 to make the turns more easily without crossing over the center lines on either highway.

Also the truck turning signs will allow all traffic to know that trucks are turning off Highways 109 and 393.

Thanks again,
Butch Harper, Safety Coordinator
River Valley By-Products
Scranton, Arkansas

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March 28, 1994
To: Jim Briley, District 2 Engineer

The Stuttgart Parks and Recreation Commission would like to take this opportunity to thank Bobby Burns and the employees of the Arkansas Highway Department of Stuttgart for their help in the drainage work done at Reinsch Sport Complex on West 22nd Street.

It is with generous help like yours that the Commission is able to accomplish so many things which would otherwise be impossible.

Sincerely,
Parks and Recreation Commission
City of Stuttgart

Editor's Note: Bob Burns is the Area Maintenance Supervisor at Stuttgart.

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March 14, 1994
To: Ray Woodruff, District 1 Engineer

Last week someone among your crew found my purse along the road, called my home in Maine, and returned it promptly by mail. I had lost the purse in Memphis while visiting my brother and his family. I didn't expect to see it nor its contents again, so you can imagine my relief and delight. Not only did I get my driver's license and other identification cards back, but also the film from my vacation!

I would like to thank the person or persons who found and returned my purse for their kindness. Would you please pass along this letter and the enclosed "goodies" from Maine as an expression of my gratitude. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kristin M. Langellier

Editor's Note: Ms. Langellier's purse was found by William G. Jones, Jr., Striping Crew Supervisor and turned over to AHP Pfc. Mike Almeda who was escorting the striping crew.

The purse was taken to the Marion Weigh Station. The owner was contacted and the purse mailed to her in Maine.

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March 30, 1994
To: Jim Briley, District 2 Engineer

On the eve of my retirement, let me express my appreciation and say it's been a genuine pleasure to work with you through the years.

For over 23 years I've been fortunate to represent the Jefferson County Industrial Foundation and its outstanding Board of Directors. In retiring, I do so with confidence that the Industrial Foundation itself, its staff and Directors are committed to working with you toward continued growth and prosperity for Pine Bluff, Jefferson County and our state.

We know Pine Bluff is a great place in which to do business, and through the years no community has been blessed with more able or dedicated leadership. Any success achieved by the Industrial Foundation has been because of that leadership and a great community of support for which we can all be grateful.

Thanks again, Jim, for all you are doing to insure a bright future for our people. I appreciate you and have enjoyed the opportunity of working with you.

Sincerely,
Wallace Gieringer, President
Jefferson County Industrial Foundation

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To: All AHTD employees who have donated to the Catastrophic Leave Program

During the period October 1992 to October 1993 I was hospitalized on nine different occasions and underwent three major surgeries. I used all my sick and annual leave and was placed on Catastrophic Leave for a total of approximately six months during this time. If this leave time had not been available, I would have had severe financial difficulties — probably to the point of being forced into bankruptcy. I thank each of you who have donated their leave to this program. I would like to express my deep appreciation for your generosity in person, but there are too many of you and I do not know the names of all who have donated to the program. Again, thank you for your leave time.

Barton K. (Ken) Benson
Civil Engineer IV
Construction Division

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AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

BRIDGE

Bridge Engineer Dale Loe and wife Donna vacationed in Hawaii in March. They enjoyed beautiful scenery and points of interest.

Our sympathy to Dale and his family on the death of his mother in March.

Lawren Wilcox, Bridge Design Engineer, recently purchased a house off Cantrell Road in Little Rock. He has completely remodeled the house and will be moving in soon.

COMPUTER SERVICES



Donna Simpson and John Baber were married October 29 at the First United Methodist Church in Benton. Donna is Division Secretary and John is Administrative Assistant in Environmental.



Jeanette Wilson, wife of Jay Wilson, Programmer Analyst, and daughter Jennifer Nicole who was born April 14.



Pictured above is Jelyn Thomas, Programmer Analyst II, in Juarez, Mexico in conjunction with the Hogar Project, a volunteer mission group through the United Methodist Churches.

CONSTRUCTION



State Construction Engineer Allan Holmes, left, presents Ralph Blackwell, Staff Construction Engineer, his 25-year service award.



Jessie A. Benson, granddaughter of Ken Benson, Civil Engineer IV, has been selected to compete for the Duke University Talent Search program. Jessie is 12 years old and in the 7th grade at Woodland Junior High School in Fayetteville.

Congratulations to Heather Price and Bruce Lawrence who were married March 5. Heather is the daughter of Ron Price, Current Estimates Section Head.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Congratulations to John Baber, Administrative Assistant II, and Randy Reynolds, Beautification Coordinator, who received their 10-year and 5-year service pins and certificates.

Welcome to Tashia Clemons, from the Federal Highway Administration, who is working in our division as a trainee. She is from Salem, Virginia with an Urban Studies degree from Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, NC. After six months of training Tashia will be assigned as an Environmental Protection Specialist with FHWA.

Best wishes to Jonivan Wallace, son of Stacey Wallace, Secretary in Beautification. Jonivan is recuperating from burns he received and has been in Arkansas Children's Hospital since February.

The Environmental Division celebrated Earth Day April 22 by hosting an information booth at the Earth Day Festival in Heber Springs. This was an opportunity to inform the public about the Department's beautification, preservation and minimization in and around highway projects.



Janelle Guest is the daughter of Brenda Guest, Beautification Coordinator. She graduated with honors from William's Magnet Elementary School. She is a member of the Student Council and the William's Magnetic Musicians Choir.

HIGHWAY POLICE



Michelle Elizabeth Fleming is the daughter of John and Elaine Fleming and was born September 27, 1993. John is a Wetland Specialist.



James Solon Hart, son of Julia Hart, Beautification Coordinator, celebrated his first birthday with a party hosted by his aunt, Nancy Hart, from Italy.

EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT

James "Tot" Holt, Multi-Axle Truck Driver retired April 7 with 20 years service. Tot was presented a money tree from his co-workers.

Kevin Kissee, Service Station Supervisor, and Penny Banks were married March 12 in Jonesboro.

Sam Ramsey, Administrative Aide II in the stockroom, and Tammy Stivers were married March 26 in Lonoke.

Keith Caddy, Senior Mechanic, became a grandfather twice in March. His granddaughter Cadee Leona was born March 9 and grandson Anson Keith was born March 16.

Ricky Grissom, Senior Mechanic, became a father for the second time with the birth of his daughter, Marisa Ann, April 12.



Shannon Jones is the daughter of Barbara Cox, Administrative Aide I. Shannon is a student at Bryant Junior High School and received an Achievement Award in Home Economics I.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources welcomes Peggy Martin-Hall and Howard Jackson to the EEO Section. They handle the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program for the Department.

Human Resources congratulates its graduating seniors who work as COE students: Amanda Chaney, Personnel; Derek Daugherty, Training and Safety; April Wheeler, Insurance; Kristina McClendon, LaToya Greene and Nikki Wilson, Records Management; Angela Kendrick, Mail and Supply; and Benjamin Bennett, EEO.

Marcia Zeno, Personnel Clerk, became a grandmother for the sixth time April 8 when Madelynn Anne Gates was born.

Congratulations to Jason Magness and Suzanna Cardinal on their engagement and upcoming marriage. Jason is employed in Mail and Supply and Suzanna is a seasonal employee in Reproduction.

INTERNAL AUDIT

Doyle Hughes, Senior Internal Auditor, was presented a 20-year service pin and certificate from Chief Auditor Bill McDorman January 30.

Congratulations to Jesse and Velenia McRae on the birth of their son, Jordan Clayborn, March 15. Velenia is a Maintenance Auditor.

LEGAL

This division was greatly saddened by the loss of Phil Gowen, Assistant Chief Counsel. Phil recently retired with 31 years service and died at home April 22. Phil was well respected by judges, attorneys and especially his co-workers.

Congratulations to Evelyn and Eugene Allison on the birth of their daughter Brooke Morgan April 21 and Kim and Tony Jewell on the birth of their daughter Breanna Marie April 14. Evelyn and Kim are Legal Secretaries.

Our best wishes to Erikk Jackson, a seasonal employee who has been working in this division. He graduated from J.A. Fair High School and plans to attend Baptist Medical System as a nursing student.

MAINTENANCE



The Landscape Crew of Facilities Management received Safety Awards for 1992 and 1993. Pictured are (kneeling) Roger Turner, Crew Leader. (Front row) Donna Martin, John Mitchell, Danny Carlton, and Brett Nebling. (Back row) Pat Pasteka, Iressa Stubblefield, Stacy Mathis, and DeWayne Shellnut. (Not pictured) Grover Garrison.

MATERIALS

Nena Snyder, Civil Engineering Technician, enjoyed a recent vacation visiting family and friends in Venezuela, Puerto Rico and Miami, Florida.

Corey Stigall, son of Willie Stigall, Geotechnical Logger, was nominated for the Parade magazine pre-season high school All-American football team. Corey will be a senior at Jacksonville High School.

Carey Jones, Geotechnical Aide, became a grandfather when his grandson was born April 20 to daughter Annie.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH



Service awards were presented to Highway Data Collectors (L-R) David Williams, 10 years; David Anderson, 20 years; and Robert Cagle, 15 years by Dan Morgan, far right.



Jason Duff and Jennifer Billingsley were married in March. Jennifer is a COE student in Reproduction.



Jason Magness and Suzanna Cardinal announce their upcoming marriage July 2. Suzanna is employed in Reproduction and Jason in Mail and Supply.

Jim Head, Section Head of Technical Services, became a grandfather for the second time when grandson Andrew James Thompson was born April 22.

PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTS

We welcome Frank Vozel as our new Division Head and the Traffic Safety Section to our division.

Ann Shaw Whitehead is the new Public Information and Education Program Manager for Traffic Safety. She formerly served as coordinator of "Think First" Head and Spinal Cord Prevention Program and Grants Coordinator for the Office of Disabilities Prevention of the Arkansas Department of Health. She received a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Harding University and has attended Texas Tech University and the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Karla Green began March 17 as Safety Program Manager working on the Occupant Protection Highway Safety programs. She is a 1987 graduate of the University of Arkansas with a Bachelor's degree in Communications/Public Relations. She was previously employed by Western Arkansas Counseling and Guidance Center in Fort Smith where she worked with the Department as an Occupant Protection Program Coordinator.

Meribeth Heye, Federal Programs Coordinator, received a 25-year service award in February.

Katherine Hamilton was promoted to Programming and Scheduling Specialist in February and Vonda Shell replaced Katherine as Administrative Assistant.



Rachel Michelle Tanner is the daughter of Eva and Ronnie Tanner and was born August 18, 1993. Eva is a General Secretary in Traffic Safety.

RIGHT OF WAY

Gary Anderson, Advanced Right of Way Plans Designer, was honored with a potluck luncheon by the Engineering Section to celebrate his 20 years service.



Shown are the grandchildren of Shirley Holmes, Senior Abstractor. They are Sara and Hilliary Chatman and Shandi Renae Shelton.



Kristen Danyelle Brown, the daughter of Timothy and Valerie Brown, was born January 16. Valerie is an Appraiser.



Kaley Dawn Brown, born January 4, 1994 and Chase Lane Crews, born October 11, 1993, are the grandchildren of Staff Appraiser Tricia Lynn.

ROADWAY DESIGN



Bethany Webb is the daughter of Mike and Cindy Webb. She celebrated her first birthday May 24. Mike is Section Head of Assessments in Environmental and Cindy is Administrative Aide I in Roadway Design.

STATE AID



Brianna Paige Oldham is the granddaughter of Barbara Crowwell, Division Secretary. Brianna recently won a preliminary "Gingerbread Pageant."



Hamilton



Jacy James Arkless is the grandson of Gene Belknap, Assistant District Engineer. He was born January 19.

DISTRICT ONE

Receiving service awards in April were: Houston Caldwell, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10 years; George Jones, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10 years; Amon Belcher, Bridge Repairer II, 15 years; Wayne Andrews, Lowboy/Float Truck Driver, 20 years; and Bill Hamilton, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, 20 years.



Thomas Edward Reynolds is the son of Edward and Cherrie Reynolds and was born January 25, 1994. Edward is Advanced CADD Technician.



Caldwell



Jones



Belcher



Andrews



Holly Smith is the daughter of Ray Duff, Crew Leader for the District Sealing Crew. She achieved a place on the Dean's List at East Arkansas Community College.



Amy Andrews, daughter of Cross County Area Maintenance Supervisor Freddie Andrews, married Chris Benson on March 19.

Congratulations to Charles Clements, Staff Design Engineer, upon his induction to the Central Arkansas Bowling Association's Hall of Fame May 21.

DISTRICT TWO



Safety awards were received by the following Area Maintenance Supervisors on behalf of their crews: Seated left to right are Jimmy Johnson, Ashley County and Paul Griffith, Grant County. Standing left to right are Bob Burns, Arkansas County at Stuttgart; Barney Herring, Desha County; Clinton Bohannon, Arkansas County at DeWitt; and D.W. "Doc" Miles, Drew County.

Resident Engineers accepting safety awards on behalf of their residency crews were Ernie Westfall, Pine Bluff; Scott Mullis, McGehee; and Mike Thompson, Monticello.



Wade Davidson (left) is the son of James Ralph Davidson, Office Technician at the Pine Bluff Residency. Wade, age 10, is a first-year Taekwondo student and recently won competition for his age group at a tournament in Memphis. Wade is shown with his instructor Ron Turchi.

DISTRICT THREE

Best wishes to District Receptionist Shelia Campbell who has been in University Hospital in Little Rock since February.

Congratulations to Marc Wake, son of Johnny and Cindy Wake. He graduated from Prescott High School in May. Johnny is a District Caretaker.

David Christopher Wilson is the 1994 Valedictorian of Murfreesboro High School. He has a 4.0 grade point average and plans to attend the University of Arkansas and major in engineering. He is the son of Roy and Regina Wilson. Roy is a Senior Construction Inspector in the Nashville Residency.

Ryan Pate, son of Debbie Pate, District Caretaker, received first place in the FFA Dairy Cattle competition held at Southern Arkansas University in Magnolia, March 31. Ryan is a freshman at Prescott High School.



Courtney Driggers is the daughter of Ronnie and Pattie Driggers. She recently graduated from kindergarten. Ronnie is Lead Person for the Pike County Maintenance Crew.



Congratulations to Sarah Still daughter of Sharon Still, District Fuel Clerk. She was chosen to be a 1994-1995 Yerger Junior High School cheerleader.



Kaylee Bren Fincher is the daughter of Kenny and Dana Fincher and the granddaughter of Frank Cross, District Materials Supervisor. Kenny is Construction Helper II in the Hope Residency.



Keaton Whit Fincher is the son of Kerry and Dana Fincher and the grandson of Frank Cross. Keaton, shown here with his crown, has won several pageants.

DISTRICT FOUR



District Engineer Harold Beaver presents Jack Coleman, Resident Engineer, with a 35-year service pin.



Calvin Peavy presents Harold Beaver, District Engineer with a 25-year service pin.



George Lee, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, presents Aubrey Bowen, Shop Supervisor, with a 15-year service certificate.



Resident Engineer Jack Coleman presents Albert Wyers, III, Construction Aide II with a 20-year service certificate.



Jack Coleman, Resident Engineer, presents Steve Balch, Construction Aide I with a 20-year service certificate.



Darlin Williams is the son of Nan Williams, Personnel Clerk. He was selected to be a member of the All District Basketball team for Class A West schools. He was selected honorable mention for the Southwest Times All-Area team. He is a junior at Mansfield High School.



Jessie Ray Elmore is the grandson of Tom Rountree, Senior Mechanic. He was born March 9 to Tom's daughter Billie.

Congratulations to Amanda Clemence, daughter of Jerry Clemence, Sign Crew Leader. She was named to the University of Arkansas Chancellor's List with a 4.0 grade point average. Amanda is enrolled in Arts and Science.

DISTRICT FIVE



Lyndal Waits, Assistant District Engineer, received a 20-year service certificate and pin.

Congratulations to Lyndal for his success as 92-93 President of the Kiwanis Club. He was presented the Distinguished President's award, the highest honor a club president can receive. The club was the multiple service winner in the Diamond Division consisting of clubs with 92 or more members.



Christopher and Chastity Elizabeth Clinard are the grandchildren of Jerry and Mary Miller. Jerry is Crew Leader for the District Bridge Crew. Christopher is two years old and Chastity was born November 2, 1993. They are the children of Mark and Anita Miller Clinard of Pine Bluff.



Donnie Schmidt and Doris Stevens were married December 31, 1993 at Cabot. Donnie is Area Headquarters Attendant for the Bald Knob Maintenance Crew.

DISTRICT SIX



Zachary Wade, shown here on his 1st birthday, is the son of Tony and Rhonda Evans. Tony is Advanced Construction Field Engineer for Jim Pound's Residency in Little Rock.



Pictured in front of the Eiffel Tower is Julie Beckwith, granddaughter of Bonnie Beckwith, Field Clerk in the Jim Pound Residency in Little Rock. Julie was one of 11 exchange students from Hot Springs High School.

DISTRICT SEVEN



Leslie Fendley Collins is the daughter of Duell "Tad" and Joanna Fendley. She was married to Robert Collins March 9 in Arkadelphia. Tad is a Vegetation Controller in Clark County.

DISTRICT EIGHT



Bud McMillan, Resident Engineer from Conway, presents Eddie Deckard, Senior Inspector, a 25-year service pin.



McMillan presents Clara Huie, Field Clerk, a gift from co-workers upon her retirement January 5 after 15 years service.



Barney Berry and Von Sturdevant, both Lead Persons, show off watches presented by their co-workers in the Van Buren County Maintenance Crew, upon their retirements. Barney has 19 years service and Von has 33 years.

DISTRICT NINE



Brian Schwartz, Inspector at the Yellville Residency, is a Sergeant with the 224th Maintenance Company of the Arkansas Army National Guard. He was selected 1993 Non-commissioned Officer (NCO) of the Year. He represented the Arkansas Army National Guard at the National Competition held in New Orleans in March and was awarded the Arkansas Distinguished Service Medal.



Tom Carter, Crew Leader, retired in December 1993 with 22 years service. He was honored at a party and presented gifts by his fellow co-workers.



Resident Engineer Burl Hudson presents Shannon Luke a pen and pencil set, a gift from co-workers.



Brent Ramsey received a new name plate as a gift from co-workers.



Dennis Drewry, Paver Operator, and Everett Burr, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator for the District Maintenance Crew, are the District Nine Horseshoe Pitching Champs.



District 10 Service Awards (L-R front row): Loretta Pollard, Motor Patrol Operator, 5 years; Dawn Jennings, Area Headquarters Attendant, 10 years; and Brenda Clark, Office Technician, Paragould Residency, 20 years. (L-R back row): Carl Imlar, Crew Leader, 15 years; Ronald Poppleton, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 15 years; Garry Price, Senior Inspector, Paragould Residency, 20 years; and Fred Davis, Distributor Roller Operator, 20 years.

DISTRICT TEN

Congratulations to Joe Ferguson, Construction Aide II in the Jonesboro Residency. He and Ellen Layton were married February 25. Also David Pierce, Civil Engineer II, was married to Jamie McBride, March 19.

The Osceola Residency said goodbye to two of its employees. Shannon Luke, Construction Field Engineer transferred to the Paragould Residency and Brent Ramsey, Civil Engineer Technician transferred to the West Memphis Residency.



The District Ten office staff and stockroom employees enjoyed a "pizza lunch" January 28 sponsored by the American Red Cross. The Pizza Party for Blood Donors included (L-R front row): Pat Norton, Receptionist; Joe Barnett, District Engineer; Bob Draper, Assistant Administrator of American Red Cross in Jonesboro; Linda Faulkenberry, District Secretary and June German, Storeroom Supervisor. (L-R back row): Steve Leath, Office Manager; Nancy Mahan, Bookkeeper; Lou Varvil, Janitor and Randy Cooper, Assistant Storeroom Supervisor.



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