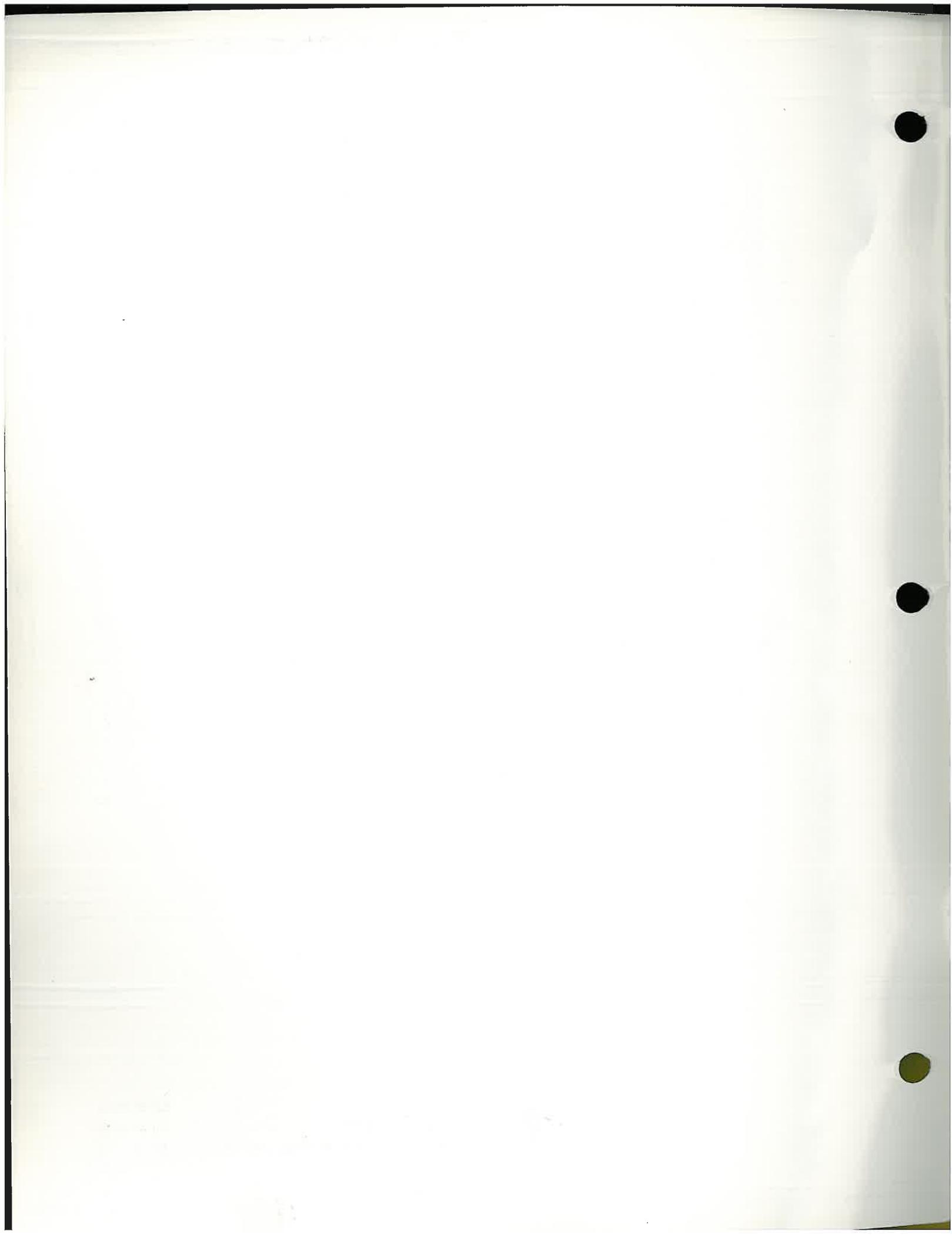


Arkansas Highways



SPRING 1983







Arkansas Highways

VOLUME 29 - NUMBER 1
SPRING 1983

Arkansas State Highway Commission

David Solomon, Chairman
Patsy L. Thomasson, Vice Chairman
Bobby Hopper, Member
Raymond Pritchett, Member
Ron Harrod, Member



Henry Gray
Director of
Highways and Transportation

B.K. Cooper
Chief Engineer

FRONT AND BACK COVER PHOTOS — Dora Tourist Information Center on Interstate 40 near the Arkansas-Oklahoma State Line. This center is one of nine tourist information centers maintained by the Highway and Transportation Department for the convenience of the travelling public. Photographs by David Hunter.

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EDITOR Bill Stanton
COMPOSITION AND LAYOUT. Carolyn Bowden
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THE DIRECTOR'S PAGE



The Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982 was signed into law by President Reagan January 6. This new Act provides increased funding, new user charges to support that funding, and a redistribution of highway user charges to more equitably treat the different classes of users.

Much has been said and written about the Act, and as a result, many misconceptions have been perceived.

It is true that Arkansas will receive an increase in federal aid highway funds over what we have been receiving. However, when you compare the 1978 Highway Act, which covered fiscal years 1979-1982, with the new act, which covers fiscal years 1983-1986, it can be seen that the increase is not all that great. On an average yearly basis, it will amount only to about \$25 million or about a 24 percent annual increase. The new bill guarantees a minimum of 85 percent of the revenue paid into the Highway Trust Fund. However, 1 cent of the 5-cent motor fuel tax does not go into this fund but into a mass transit fund. There is no guarantee Arkansas will receive anything from the mass transit fund.

The new act also places emphasis on the Interstate and Bridge Replacement Programs. For example, the 1978 Act contained a total of \$92 million, or \$23 million per year in the Interstate category. The new bill will authorize some \$185 million, or an average of about \$46 million per year. Also, in the Bridge Replacement Fund, the 1978 bill authorized a total of \$51 million, or \$12.8 million per year, while the new bill contains a total of \$121 million, or about \$40 million per year.

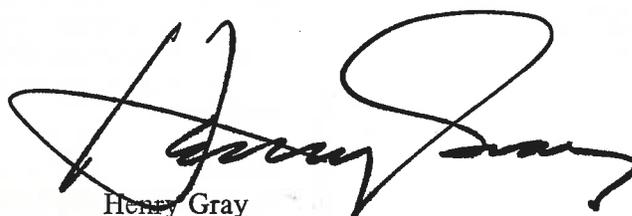
Unfortunately, categories such as Priority Primary, and Great River Road Funds were eliminated. This will actually result in a net loss in the area of primary funding since these programs will now have to utilize regular primary funds with the net result being a delay in completion of the projects underway.

Very little federal aid is available for the secondary highway network which contains some 4,200 miles of rural roads. Only an average of \$1,300 per year per mile is available in the new bill for these highways. We also have some 6,000 miles of rural farm-to-market roads that are not on the federal aid system and, therefore, require 100 percent expenditure of state funds if any type improvement is undertaken.

These state funds continue to decline each year due to the decrease in motor fuel consumption and the present system of taxation not being responsive to inflation.

Now that the legal weight limit in Arkansas has been raised to 80,000 pounds more state funds will have to be dedicated to maintenance of the highway system. This will leave fewer state dollars available for construction and matching money for federal funds. As a result, we may not be able to take advantage of all of the federal funds allocated to Arkansas.

It would be disastrous for Arkansas highway users to pay additional federal taxes and not be able to reap any benefits from it because of a lack of state funds.


Henry Gray
Director of Highways and Transportation



David Solomon, Chairman



Patsy Thomasson, Vice Chairman

Solomon Elected Chairman of Highway Commission

David Solomon, a Helena attorney, was elected Chairman of the Arkansas State Highway Commission at its January 26 meeting in Little Rock.

Solomon was appointed by former Governor David Pryor in 1975 to serve a ten-year term on the Commission. He had been Vice Chairman since 1981. He replaces James Branyan of Camden as Chairman. Branyan's term on the Commission expired in January.

The new Chairman is a native of Helena, attended Davidson College and graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 1936. He received his law degree in 1939 from Harvard University.

After four years in the Army during World War II, he returned to Helena to practice law. He was City Attorney from 1950 to 1960, and is a former member of the Helena School Board.

Solomon is President of the Helena Cotton Oil Company, Trust Officer and Attorney for the First National Bank of Phillips County, a former Presi-

dent of the Helena-West Helena Industrial Development Corporation, a member of the Executive Committee of the Lower Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association, and a member of the Board of the White River Drainage District of Phillips and Desha Counties. He has served as attorney for both the Beaver Bayou and Big Creek Drainage Districts.

Commissioner Patsy Thomasson was elected to serve as Vice Chairman. She was appointed to the Commission in 1977 by former Governor David Pryor.

Miss Thomasson is a graduate of Rison High School, earned a B.S. Degree at Henderson State University and a M.S. Degree in Consumer Economics at the University of Missouri.

She is President of Southern Management Association, Inc., which specializes in hospital management.

CLINTON APPOINTS NEW HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS

Bobby Hopper, 50, of Springdale and Ron Harrod, 35, of Prescott, have been named to the State Highway Commission by Governor Bill Clinton.

Hopper was appointed January 19 to fill the un-⁸³expired term of F. H. Martin, Jr. He will serve the remaining six years of Martin's term.

Martin, a Fayetteville attorney, was appointed by Governor Clinton in 1979 and resigned recently citing business and family considerations.

Harrod was appointed February 16 to replace former Commissioner James Branyan of Camden whose term expired. Harrod will serve a ten-year term.

Hopper owned and operated the Bobby Hopper Ford Company in Springdale from 1969 to 1980, when he sold it. Since then, he has operated his own small investment business.

"It was a great honor for me for Governor Clinton to give me this sort of responsibility," he said. "I'm really committed to it. When I get a job, I really work at it."

The new commissioner has wasted no time in getting his feet wet. From the day he was sworn in

he has been a frequent visitor to the Central Office building and the State Capitol, where he has joined other commissioners in discussing highway and transportation legislation with the state's lawmakers.

He is a member of the board of Springdale Rotary Club and a past member of the Springdale Chamber of Commerce board of directors.

Hopper and his wife Lois have two children.

Harrod is a native of Dumas and is an insurance agent in Prescott. He was serving on the state Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and resigned that post prior to his new appointment.

He is a past President of the Prescott/Nevada Chamber of Commerce, has served as State Vice President of the Arkansas Jaycees, is a member of the Nevada County Democratic Central Committee, and is a Deacon at the First Baptist Church of Prescott. Following his confirmation by the State Senate, Harrod told reporters, "I do see a real need for having good highways." He said he would work diligently to improve the state's transportation system.

Harrod is married to the former Claudetta Shinn and they have one son.



Highway and Transportation Department Director Henry Gray, Arkansas Highway Commission Vice Chairman Patsy Thomasson, and new Highway Commissioners Ron Harrod and Bobby Hopper.



Seated, Left to Right: Dan Portis, Willie Lawson and Arnil Taylor. Standing, Left to Right: AHTD Director Henry Gray, F.H. Martin, Jr. Lawrence Blackwell, David Solomon, John Harsh, George Kell, Patsy Thomasson, James Branyan, Maurice Smith, Ross Pendergraft, Ike Murry and Raymond Pritchett.

Commissioners Celebrate 30th Anniversary of Mack-Blackwell Amendment

Fourteen former and present members of the State Highway Commission gathered in Little Rock December 16, 1982 to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Mack-Blackwell Amendment to the State Constitution.

Amendment 42 was approved by the citizens of Arkansas on November 4, 1952 by a landslide vote (231,529 for; 78,291 against), setting up a five member independent Highway Commission that is charged with providing the state with an adequate transportation network. The Commissioners serve 10-year staggered terms and are appointed by the Governor. The Commission hires the Director. Since the passage of the amendment, the State Highway System has grown from a total of 9,993 miles to 16,090 miles. The Commission and the Department have also taken on new responsibilities following the passage of Act 192 of 1977 changing the name of the Department to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department.

Receiving special recognition at the luncheon was Lawrence Blackwell of Pine Bluff. As a state senator Blackwell had joined with the late Senator W.M. Mack of Moorefield in sponsoring the legislation that referred the proposed amendment to the voters.

Blackwell also has the distinction of serving out a four-year unexpired term on the Commission plus a full 10-year term. The 14-year tenure is a record.

Prior to the passage of the Mack-Blackwell Amendment it was common practice to abolish the Commission and reconstitute it to serve the political purposes of incoming governors. Over the years there was a proliferation of Commissioners rising from 5 to 7 to 10 and finally to 12. The highway program, if in fact it was worthy to be called a program, was one of "stop and go". This came about because incoming governors had made their own road promises and had no interest in prior commitments. Highway jobs were also influenced by political patronage. Following the election of a new governor, patronage committees would spring up in each county and exercise the function of naming District Engineers and all other personnel down to the common laborer.

Since the passage of the amendment, Arkansas has moved forward in its highway program. The efforts of the Highway Commission over the past 30 years have provided the citizens of Arkansas with a completely debt-free highway system valued at almost two billion dollars. The Mack-Blackwell Amendment has also been responsible for the estab-

lishment of a modern and unique state aid program to assist the counties and cities of Arkansas in a comprehensive program of county road and city street improvements, and a statewide rest area and tourist information center building program.

Those present, and the years they served, were: Dan Portis of Lepanto, 1953-55; Miss Willie Lawson of Little Rock, 1953-57; Armil Taylor of Clarksville, 1959-69; Lawrence Blackwell of Pine Bluff, 1958-61 and 1967-77; Wayne Hampton of Stuttgart, 1962-67;

John Harsh of Magnolia, 1963-73; Maurice Smith of Birdeye, 1965-75; George Kell of Swifton, 1971-81; Ross Pendergraft of Fort Smith, 1978-79; James Branyan of Camden, 1973-83; F. H. Martin, Jr. of Fayetteville, 1979-83; David Solomon of Helena, 1975-present; Patsy Thomasson of Little Rock, 1977-present; and Raymond Pritchett of Maumelle, 1981-present. Also present was Ike Murry of Little Rock, who was attorney general in 1952 and who is given credit for actually writing the amendment.



Henry Gray, right, receives the presidential gavel from John Clements of New Hampshire, AASHTO Immediate Past President.

Gray Elected AASHTO President

Highway and Transportation Director Henry Gray was elected president of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) at the 68th annual meeting held in Orlando, Florida, November 21, 1982.

Gray joined the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department in 1962 as chief of the right-of-way division, moving up the ranks to director in 1973. Before that, he worked for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission for 10 years. Gray received a bachelor of science degree in wildlife conservation from the University of Wyoming, and was employed by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission for two years.

In AASHTO, Gray has been active on various committees, serving as vice president last year. He is a former chairman of the AASHTO Administrative Subcommittee on Public Affairs, and a past president of the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. One of his first

official duties as AASHTO President was to attend the White House ceremony in which President Reagan signed the Surface Transportation Assistance Act into law on January 6.

William A. Ordway, Director of the Arizona Department of Transportation was elected to serve as vice president of AASHTO. Commissioner Patsy Thomasson was re-elected to chair the AASHTO Special Select Committee Conference of Commissions and Boards for 1983. This will be her third year as chairman. She served as vice-chairman in 1980.

(AASHTO is a national organization founded in 1914 that represents member state highway and transportation agencies, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The non-profit group works to develop and improve the construction, operation and maintenance of a national transportation system.)

Interstate 440 Bridge Wins Engineering Excellence Award



The Arkansas River Bridge on the East Belt Freeway (I-440) in Pulaski County has won First Prize in the engineering excellence awards competition held in January by the American Consulting Engineers Council of Arkansas

Garver & Garver, Inc. of Little Rock served as the engineering consultant to the State Highway & Transportation Department. McClelland Engineers, Inc. served as geotechnical consultants for soils and foundation investigations.

The six lane bridge is over four thousand feet long and is the river crossing for Interstate Highway 440.

The bridge is designed to carry 47,000 vehicles per day by the year 2000. Connecting the cities of Little Rock and North Little Rock, the bridge is near the Little Rock airport and riverport - industrial park.

Continuous plate girder spans form the superstructure including one which extends 540 feet over the navigational channel. This span is the longest structural span within Arkansas and is one of the

longest plate girder spans in the nation.

The bridge is supported by three types of foundations. Deep foundations of dredged caissons occupy the main river channel while large diameter drilled shafts are in the remaining river bed. Driven pile foundations are placed in the overbank areas. The soil in this area consists mostly of stratified layers of clays and sands.

The total project cost \$36 million and was constructed in four contracts over a four year period.

Last year, the South Terminal Interchange (I-440/I-30/Hwy. 65) won second place in the engineering excellence competition.

The entire ten-mile I-440 project was constructed at a cost in excess of \$152 million and was one of only three projects in the nation to qualify for special Urban High Density funds authorized in 1974 by the Federal Highway Administration.

Sanford Wilbourn, president of Garver & Garver, presented a picture of the bridge to Highway Commission Vice-Chairman Patsy Thomasson at the Commission's February meeting.

DEDICATIONS

Pershing Boulevard Underpass and Kiehl Avenue in North Little Rock Officially Opened to Traffic

A steady downpour did not dampen the spirits of North Little Rock and Sherwood officials as they gathered under umbrellas to officially dedicate two recently completed highway projects November 17, 1982.

The Pershing Boulevard Underpass and relocation of State Highway 176 in North Little Rock is a project that had been in the mill for years. With its completion, motorists now have a direct and quick route to the Memorial Hospital and emergency vehicles will no longer be delayed in getting to the hospital because of trains.

Just moments before the ribbon cutting, a Missouri Pacific Lines train rumbled over the underpass. State Senator Cliff Hoofman of North Little Rock, who had worked for years with the Highway and Transportation Department in finding funding for the project, noted, "had we caught pneumonia here today, we wouldn't have gotten to the hospital, but now that problem has been eliminated."

The \$2.1 million project extended Pershing west from Percy Machin Drive to the intersection of Pike Avenue. Percy Machin was widened from two lanes to four lanes between 29th Street and Pike Avenue.

In 1975, voters approved a property tax increase to finance 40 percent of the project. The remaining cost was paid by Federal Urban Development funds and Railway Crossing funds.

Immediately after the dedication, officials drove to Sherwood to officially open the new 2.8 mile four lane improvement to Kiehl Avenue. (Hwy. 176)

Again, the umbrellas came out as officials



Pershing Boulevard Underpass



Kiehl Avenue

gathered in a downpour to cut the ribbon.

Kiehl Avenue was widened from a two lane rural highway to a modern urban four lane road with curbs and gutters from Highway 107 to Highway 67/167.

The \$2.9 million project is expected to carry 14,500 vehicles per day in the future.

Highway 82 Bypass Dedicated at El Dorado

Ceremonies to formally dedicate and open the six mile Highway 82 Bypass at El Dorado were held December 2, 1982.

The history of a south bypass of the city of El Dorado goes back to 1956. In March of that year, the Arkansas Highway Commission authorized the consulting firm of Norris and Elder of Houston, Texas to prepare a preliminary engineering report. The report recommended a bypass to relieve the congestion on Hillsboro.

In 1961, a traffic study made for the city of El Dorado again recommended a south bypass. In March 1964, the Arkansas Highway Commission authorized the Highway Department to begin surveys, plans and construction as funds became available.

Location approval of the route was granted by the Federal Highway Administration in March 1969. Due to limited funds for highway construction it was not until mid-1976 that the Department was able to actively pursue the project.

In June 1977, a Design Public Hearing was held. Design approval was received shortly after that and the first of three contracts was awarded in July 1978.

Because of funding limitations, the project had to be constructed in phases. Total cost, including right-of-way acquisition, is \$21,034,524.

It is projected that 15,000 vehicles per day will use this facility by the year 2000.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Highway 65 Project Gets Support

Approximately 150 people were on hand at the Greenbrier school cafeteria December 16, 1982 to hear Highway and Transportation Department officials explain the proposal to widen Highway 65 to four lanes from Conway to Greenbrier.

The 11.7 mile project is estimated to cost nearly \$18 million and would be split into two phases. The first phase would be from I-40 at Conway to Highway 287 and the second phase would be from Highway 287 to Highway 25 north of Greenbrier.

Roadway Design Engineer Bob Walters told the audience the highway would have four 12-foot lanes separated by a 4-foot striped median.

Beginning at Highway 287 in Springhill, the highway would have five lanes - four through lanes and a center turn lane - and would be curbed and guttered. This would continue through Greenbrier to Highway 25 north.

State Representative Bill Stephens urged the department to proceed with the project because of the safety factors involved.

"This is probably one of the most hazardous highways in the state," he said. "It's a bottleneck."

Senator Stanley Russ said widening of the highway would be necessary if the highway were to be used as a main evacuation route in case of another missile silo crisis. The Air Force has several Titan II

missile silos located along Highway 65.

Approximately 11,000 vehicles use the highway daily. It is estimated that 19,000 vehicles will use it in 20 years, with 11 percent being heavy trucks.

Highway Commissioner Raymond Pritchett said the existing two-lane facility was "physically sound, but functionally obsolete."

He said the widening is necessary because of the growth of the area.



Commissioner Raymond Pritchett

Highway 62 Reconstruction at Mountain Home Recieves Residential Support

Plans to reconstruct and widen a 4.5 mile section of Highway 62 through Mountain Home received the support of Baxter County residents at a public hearing held February 17.

At the present time Highway 62 is a two lane highway with a continuous left turn lane. Traffic studies show that there are just over 12,000 vehicles per day using the highway. Projections indicate that over the course of 20 years, this volume will grow to about 21,000 vehicles per day.

For the most part, the development along Highway 62 has been strip commercial development. As a result, a heavy volume of left-turn movements must be accommodated.

The Department plans to widen the route to four traffic lanes, plus a continuous left-turn lane. Roadway Design Engineer Bob Walters told the nearly 200 people in attendance that the Department proposes to build a 58-foot wide pavement surface with curb and gutter. The cross drains that are presently on the project will be extended or replaced if

they are inadequate. The bridge over Dodd Creek will be widened to include four-foot wide pedestrian walkways on each side.

Walters said the estimated cost of the project is approximately \$5 million. For this reason, the project will have to be built in stages. The section from Highway 5 to Club Boulevard is the first priority. Phase two will be the western end from near Fuller Street to Highway 5 and the third phase will be the eastern segment from Club Boulevard to the eastern connection of the proposed Highway 62 Bypass.

One Mountain Home resident noted that the city had experienced a tremendous amount of residential and business growth along the Highway 62 corridor. He said the plan to improve the highway identified the needs that exist and urged the Department to proceed as quickly as possible to complete the project.

Others speaking at the public hearing also expressed their support.



Highway 95 north of Morrilton, Arkansas



Bridge on Highway 63 over Big Running Water Creek in Lawrence County

Flood Damage Extensive to State Roads

The month of December started out normal enough but by the end of the first week nearly \$29 million in damage had occurred to the state's roads as a result of flooding.

Five bridges were washed away, or damaged beyond repairs. Several others suffered substructure damage, causing them to be closed or load limits reduced.

Four of the damaged structures were over the Strawberry River in Northern Arkansas.

On State Highway 58 in Sharp County, the narrow Strawberry River Bridge gave way to the rushing waters and crashed into the piers that were being constructed a few yards downstream for a replacement structure. Work on the new structure has been halted until a damage assessment and field changes can be made.

In about three dozen other cases, the roadway approaches on both ends of bridges washed out. The Department has repaired all of these on a tem-

porary basis.

Damage estimates have been submitted to both the Federal Highway Administration and the Office of Emergency Services because relief funds come from both sources.

Damage to federal-aid state highways was estimated at nearly \$8.2 million. Federal-aid county roads will need about \$979,000.

State highways that don't normally receive federal aid will need an estimated \$4.2 million and non-aid county roads received about \$15 million in damage.

Some federal-aid construction projects were in progress and damage to them was about \$330,000.

The Federal Highway Administration funds and the OES administered funds will pay a minimum of 75 percent of the cost. The money received for emergency repairs will not count against the state's normal allocation of road funds.



Bridge on Highway 95 over West Hollow Branch in Van Buren County



Highway 14 near Newport.

Summer Youth Program Achieves Success

Each summer the Federal Highway Administration encourages States to participate in a nationwide program designed to provide meaningful work experience in highway construction for the Nation's youth who need work because of economic, educational and/or cultural disadvantages. The program is called the External Youth Opportunity Program and is administered by the Highway and Transportation Department's EEO Section.

This past summer, three agencies developed and implemented an agreement to coordinate the External Youth Opportunity Program in Arkansas. The agreement was signed by Bill Belt, Regional Administrator, Employment Standards Administration, U.S. Department of Labor; Henry Gray, Director, Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department and Jim Martin, Chapter Manager, Associated General Contractors of America/Arkansas Chapter. This was the first time that a joint effort of this kind had been undertaken.

This union achieved notable results. Despite federal cutbacks and fewer construction projects, the total number of youth hired during the 1982 campaign exceeded the 1981 campaign by 20%. The total number of youth hired in 1981 was 219 and the total number of youth hired in 1982 was 262.

These organizations encouraged and coordinated state highway contractors and material suppliers in the hiring of summer youth. Those highway contractors participating in the program who hired a significant number of disadvantaged youth were recognized on December 10, 1982 at the Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock.

The three recipients for the year 1982 were: (1) C.W. Smith, Contractor, Guthrie, Oklahoma with a total number of 23 youth; (2) D.B. Hill, Contractor, Little Rock, Arkansas with a total number of 21 youth; (3) Gardner B/H Constructors, Houston, Texas with a total number of 18 youth.

Also for the second time in two years the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department was publicly recognized by the Urban League of Arkansas at its annual Equal Employment Opportunity affair. The League presented the Department with its "Award of Corporate Social Responsibility" (Pacesetter award) which recognizes those organizations which have exercised exemplary responsibility by assisting and/or supporting black organizations and black and/or other disadvantaged persons in overcoming economic and social deprivation.

Driver Improvement Course Proves Popular

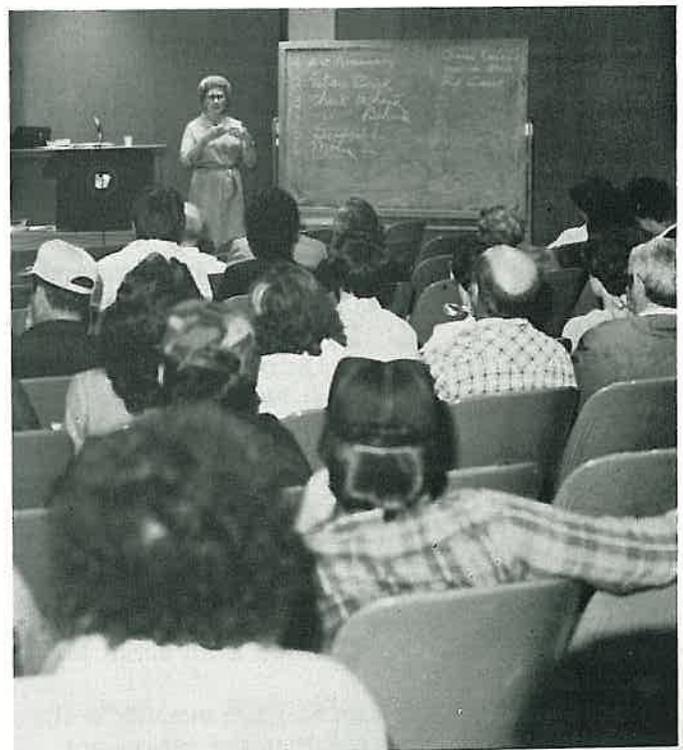
Nearly 200 Highway and Transportation Department employees took advantage of the Driver Improvement Course conducted at the Central Office Building in January.

The course, presented by the State Revenue Division's Office of Driver Services, is a four hour course in defensive driving. By learning to drive defensively the student improves his skills as a driver. Driving defensively will help avoid accidents and could save lives.

Topics covered included hints on how to drive under adverse conditions such as rain, snow, ice, and heavy traffic; how to avoid the head-on crash; how to deal with tailgaters; the proper ways to drive through or make turning movements at intersections; proper passing; and other safe driving tips.

Central Office participants were also used as part of a "Segment Four" news feature produced by KARK-Channel 4 in Little Rock. One of the workshop sessions was filmed by Channel 4 and several students and instructors were interviewed for the program.

The course will be made available to District employees later in the year.





Pat Koonce Honored by Red Cross

Pat Koonce of Fiscal Services, was recently honored by the American Red Cross for donating 72 units (9 gallons) of blood. Pat says she began participating through the Highway Department program because "Someday I might need their services and I wanted to do my share. Now that I have a premature

grandson who requires transfusions, I am especially glad to be a part of the bloodmobile effort." Chief Fiscal Officer, J. E. McCarthy, presented a Red Cross donor pin to Pat in recognition of her contributions.

The number of units donated by Highway Department employees has significantly increased since the Personnel Section established a committee to encourage participation. The committee members are Larry Foreman, Tony Ellis, Gary Martin, Joanne Potts, Bonnie Wesson, Mark Bradley, Linda Chivers, Jeannie Barrett, Raymond Jones, Melba Shepard, Brenda Walden, Paul Simms, Al Kisner, Sue Clowers, and Doris Tracy. This committee has succeeded in tripling the number of donors from the Department.

An interesting and informative "fact sheet" from the American Red Cross Blood Services can be obtained by contacting your local chapter of the Red Cross or the Personnel Section.

Statewide, the Department has many employees who have donated over four gallons through blood mobiles, churches, community centers and local Red Cross Centers. Many others regret they are unable to give blood for various health reasons, but they too share the pride in recognizing that a large quantity of Arkansas' need for blood is provided by the contributory efforts of Highway Department employees. Giving blood is a humanitarian act, and by giving, we help create and maintain a life-saving service for other Arkansas citizens.

AHTD Retirees Form New Association

Retired Highway and Transportation Department employees have formed an organization designed to keep them abreast of changes in the retirement, insurance and other programs in which they participate.

The AHTD Retirees Association also serves as a means to keep in touch with fellow retirees and current department activities.

The Association was formed late last year and drew 63 retirees at its second meeting on January 14, 1983.

Hurley Perkins, former District 6 Engineer, is President; Ralph Jones, former Resident Engineer, is Vice President; and Gene Ashcraft, formerly of the Construction and Computer Services Division, is Secretary-Treasurer.

Highway Commissioner Raymond Pritchett attended the January meeting and discussed the status of the Department with the retirees. He also reminded them that they are all Ambassadors of Good Will and should continue to spread the word about the Department.

District 2 Engineer Sam Smith, a member of the Retirement Board, reported that the retirement

system was sound and said several ideas were being discussed to make it even better.

Assistant Director Gip Robertson reviewed the insurance program with the retirees.

It was voted that an annual membership fee of \$10 would be established for each retiree wishing to join the Association. Perkins said this money would be used to cover such expenses as; printing, letterhead and envelopes, bulk mailing of newsletters, letters to the sick and families of deceased members, and other miscellaneous expenses.

Any retired employee interested in joining should contact Gene Ashcraft, 6509 Corsica Dr., North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118.





Letters Commend Good Deeds

December 21, 1982

January 5, 1983

Dear Sirs:

Just a note of appreciation - my husband and I recently made a trip on Interstate 40 from Tulsa to Russellville. We wanted to let you know how we appreciate your clean, nice rest areas. We had our dog with us and it made a safe place for us to get out and walk and rest.

Thank you,
Mr. and Mrs. D. Hendryx
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma

December 13, 1982

Mr. Jim Chaney
District 5 Engineer
Batesville, Arkansas

Dear Jim:

I am taking this opportunity to express my thanks to you and the men under your command, that worked in the Rose Bud area after the storm last Thursday evening December 2.

Also, the assistance rendered to us in the flood in Sharp, Jackson and White Counties. Area foremen John Odom, Gene Stewart, G.C. Anderson and Bobby Hubbard and their crews worked long hours, tirelessly and under adverse circumstances cleaning up debris, barricading roads, etc. For their efforts we are both grateful and thankful and wish to commend them for this service.

With kindest regards; I am,

Sincerely,
R.E. Ward, Captain
Commander of Troop B
Arkansas State Police
Newport, Arkansas

Arkansas Highway Department
Jim Chaney, District 5 Engineer
Batesville, Arkansas

Dear Jim:

Thank you for all you have done in meeting the many emergencies which have arisen during the recent tornado and flood disasters. Only through the efforts of unselfish people such as yourselves were we able to overcome the emergencies and the resulting hardships.

Our city and county can take great pride in the spirit of the people. And this great spirit manifests itself in time of need.

Again let me thank you for all you have done.

Sincerely,
Jim Shirrell, Mayor
City of Batesville

December 10, 1982

Mr. Jim Chaney
District 5 Engineer
Batesville, Arkansas

Dear Jim:

I am writing to make sure you are aware of the efforts put forth by your ferry operator, Bill Wallace, in securing the Guion Ferry during the flood last week.

Bill stayed with the ferry throughout Thursday night and all day Friday, and somehow kept it tied up - we don't know how. This was all done at extremely great risk to his personal safety.

I hope Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department will officially recognize Bill's deed and commend him for his extraordinary action.

Very truly yours,
S.C. Cooke, President
Silica Products Company, Inc.
Guion, Arkansas



SERVICE AWARDS

DECEMBER 1982

30 Years

Grady Putman District 7

25 Years

Wilson F. Russell District 1

20 Years

Russell L. Brantley District 2

Jack K. Brown District 8

Barbara O. Crowell State Aid

Eddie L. Ennis District 1

Joe E. Newell District 4

Emily P. Rogers District 4

15 Years

Thomas L. Crites District 8

Ruben Hurst District 9 (Peel Ferry)

Doyle Jordon District 9

Robert A. Murdoch District 8

Lynda S. Thomas District 1

Herbert Watlington District 1

10 Years

Joe Black, Jr. AHP

Ulyes May District 7

Michael F. Shaw Computer Services

James A. Wolfe District 2

5 Years

Guy P. Ashenberger E&P

Doyle L. Crouch AHP

Ruth H. Edmondson EEO

Luster E. Flake District 4

Kenneth L. George District 8

Janice G. Harrington District 3

Jerry D. Hensley District 9

J.R. Kesner District 9

Ellie H. McDowell District 1

Lawrence W. Montgomery District 6

Donald M. Taylor District 6

James A. Turner District 6

Melvie Rippond Fiscal Services

JANUARY 1983

25 Years

Curtis H. Crow District 3

Leroy Ray District 3

20 Years

Dwain W. Miles District 2

Leroy Zachry District 3

15 Years

Billy J. Coffee AHP

William M. Cogburn AHP

Calvin L. Collins Materials

Vernon D. Fielding District 4
 Jimmy B. Key District 6
 Benjamin F. Loe District 7
 Thomas E. Murphy AHP
 Larry L. Myers District 3
 Earl G. White District 3
 Clifton R. Yates District 4

10 Years

Lloyd J. Adams AHP
 Danny E. Arendt ROW
 Polly A. Cloud Planning
 Arthur M. Duncan District 8
 Linward D. Godfrey Reproduction
 Sherriel Jones District 8
 Ronnie L. Putman District 8
 Pat J. Sullivan Maintenance

5 Years

Blaze L. Booth District 9
 Samuel Crain District 2
 Vance A. Huneycutt District 7
 Ronald P. Johnson Traffic
 Danny H. Jones District 5
 Carl V. Kuykendall District 5
 Paula F. Long District 6
 Charlie McCree District 2
 John E. Sharum District 9
 Reuben A. Strozier District 4
 Danny K. Thomas District 1
 David D. Todd Surveys
 John W. Weddington District 1
 Donald B. Wray Construction

FEBRUARY 1983

25 Years

Troy A. Case District 5
 James K. Mathis District 5
 Avalee Padgett E&P
 Walker M. Watson ROW

20 Years

James J. Blalock District 8
 Jerl L. Burks M&R
 L.B. Montgomery Henderson Ferry

15 Years

Jo Ann Carlile District 10
 Gary D. Carte District 10
 Ronald H. Dunigan District 1
 Charles R. Garner District 3
 Rita Jo Hardcastle Computer Services
 Maurice G. Hinshaw District 6
 Wm. Grover Jones, Jr. Traffic
 James A. McFerran District 8
 Thomas E. Miller District 8
 Larry J. Thornburg District 4
 Ben I. Watson District 1
 Bobby W. Welch Roadway Design
 Lee J. Williams District 3

10 Years

Ernestine M. Abel District 1
 Billie A. Boyd Director
 Bruce R. Bradke District 6
 Philip E. Chambliss District 7
 Michael E. Coogan Bridge Design
 Willie F. Gaston District 2
 Thomas J. Hollis District 7
 Buford T. Humphries AHP
 Wm. H. McDorman Internal Audit
 Jerry R. Westerman M&R

5 Years

James A. Dancy Safety
 Alton L. Davis AHP
 Virgil Doty District 1
 Lawrence D. Dupree ROW
 Walter Graves III District 2
 Elizabeth Ann Griffin District 1
 Morgan C. Gullett District 6

Tom Carrel Hale AHP
 Connie M. Harper District 8
 Albert B. Herrod AHP
 Angela G. Johnson District 6
 Ginger Mitchell Public Trans.
 Randy C. Rawls Fiscal Services
 Perry P. Stegall District 5
 Hoyt M. Taylor District 5
 Lee Roy Tharp District 8
 Sharon K. Williams AHP



RETIREES

NOVEMBER 1982

Jake Franks District 2
 Charles F. Jones District 10
 Archie Lewis District 4
 Hubert Miller District 3
 James B. Rives District 6
 Norman Ross Henderson Ferry
 James W. Seay District 4
 Virgial H. Shassere District 1
 Earshel Singleton District 3
 Troy Smith District 10

DECEMBER 1982

Olen R. Crawford District 4

JANUARY 1983

Howard H. Currie Traffic Service
 James A. Parker District 6
 Birtrum M. Price District 3
 Emily P. Rogers District 4

AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

CONSTRUCTION

Dan Flowers, State Construction Engineer, and several AHTD friends went hunting in Colorado and although they did not have much luck, are already making plans to go again next fall. They enjoyed the beautiful scenery even when the temperature fell to five degrees.

Later, he and his family drove to Florida where he gave a speech at the AASHTO meeting. They also toured Disneyworld and enjoyed the World of Tomorrow and all the Disney characters.

The Game & Fish Department lured Patti Robinson away and we had a farewell party. Dan Flowers presented her with a gift from all of us and afterwards refreshments were served. Good-bye Patti and good luck!

JoJo Oliver, daughter of Marty Oliver, made the girls basketball team at Glenrose High School. Danny Carson, Doyle's son is playing for Sylvan Hills and Jon Smart, Elaine's son, is on the Mabelvale team, so you can bet we have three proud parents. They sound like coaches comparing plays and scores.

Final Estimates Section and our families were invited to join us for our Christmas dinner and what a feast we had! We enjoyed getting together and there was a steady exchange of recipes for several days.

The most unusual gift received by anyone in our department was a solar calculator that Santa left at Doyle Carson's house.

Vershall and Peggy Roy welcomed home their sons for the holidays. Donald drove over from Mississippi and Kenneth came from Oak Ridge, Tennessee; so along with daughter Margaret, they had three of their children home.

COMPUTER SERVICES

Computer Service employees had their Annual Christmas Luncheon on December 22. Lots of good food was enjoyed by all that were present. Also, a number of our employees and their spouses attended Murry's Dinner Playhouse early in December as a part of their Christmas festivities.

In December Mike Shaw received recognition for 10 years of service with the Department. Jerry Stussy, our Chief, presented him with a 10 year pin and certificate. Also, cookies were served in honor of the occasion. Congratulations Mike!

We would like to welcome our new employees, Alan Rogers, Carol Fincher and Louise Powell. Carol and Louise came to work for the Department in early January. Alan, who had been working on a temporary basis became a permanent employee in December.

EEO SECTION

December 9 was a double treat for Ruth Edmondson, secretary for the EEO Section. It happened to be her birthday and the day she was presented her 5 year service award from Jim Lowder. Congratulations on both occasions.



EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT

We would like to congratulate Sue Fuller, who is our newest grandma around the office.

Sue's son, Steve and his wife, Lana, are the proud parents of Brandon Michael Fuller. Brandon was born December 19 and weighed 8 pounds and 8½ ounces. Sue is awfully proud of the whole situation and we've seen a lot of cute pictures of the little fellow. He sure is a sweetie.

Henry Plunk's little granddaughter, Jessica Nicole Barnes, is only 15 months old and already a little beauty. She came in second runnerup in the Jaycee's Our Little Miss pageant in Jacksonville. She competed against about 25 other little girls up to 3 years of age. Henry is very proud of her and we are too!



Jessica Nicole Barnes

We almost thought we would never again see Al Sacco. While visiting his parents in Omaha, Nebraska, he was snowed in for quite a few days and couldn't get back to Arkansas. It was a few days later than planned when he finally got back and we were all glad to see him.

Ann Johnson also had to fight a few blizzards. After a week of snow skiing, she and her family left Denver in hazardous blizzard conditions. They made it out of Colorado and had to go through another blizzard in Kansas. They all arrived home safely and believe it or not, they can't wait to go again.

We would like to express our deepest sympathy to our fellow employee Ann White and her family on the loss of her mother, Ora Freeman.

LEGAL DIVISION

Everyone in our office had an enjoyable holiday season in 1982 by celebrating Christmas with family and friends in different activities such as a Christmas Party given by Mr. Keys and his wife in their home. Mrs. Keys prepared a delicious dinner, as always, and a good time was had by all. At the end of December the office had a potluck lunch. There was plenty of good food and everyone found it hard to go back to work in the afternoon after eating so much food.

Laverne Thompson was busy in November with the arrival of her first grandchild, James Matthew Harshfield. Matthew was born November 10 and weighed 8 pounds and 6 ounces. Matthew keeps his mother Pam very busy. Pam is a former employee of the Highway Dept.

Congratulations to Karen Gardner, who is now Karen Horton. Karen was married November 26 to Andrew "Curt" Horton. They were married at home with a small gathering of friends and family. Karen's son, Eric, had a



James Matthew Harshfield



Karen, Eric and Curt



Robin, Regina and Ravyn Wilson

good time getting into the cake. Curt is employed at the VA Hospital.

Robert Wilson's family is keeping busy this year with his daughters attending school and participating in different activities. Robin, who

is 10 years old, attends Landmark Elementary School and loves to play the violin. Regina, who is 8 years old, is a Brownie and also attends Landmark Elementary. Ravyn, who is 5 years old, attends J.C. Cook Kindergarten and likes to help Robert with his work.

PHOTOGRAMMETRY

We were sad to see Joe Ann Osborne leave Photogrammetry. She has returned to Teletype Corp. where she worked prior to coming to the Highway Dept. We will miss her, even though she was here only a short time. We wish her the best of luck in her new employment.

Terry Gaither is our new Photographic Technician. He is married to the former Cindy Gilliam and enjoys hunting and fishing in his spare time. We are happy to have Terry with us. Welcome, Terry.

Roger Fenton, son of Larry Fenton, entered the Army at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri on December 7. After a brief visit home over the holidays, he returned to Ft. Leonard Wood to complete his basic training. After graduation from basic, Roger will then go to Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, where he will train as a dental technician at Brooks Army Medical Center.



Roger Fenton

Our annual Christmas party was a big success again this year. Last Christmas was our first time to sponsor a needy family, and all of us in Photogrammetry were so pleased and felt so good about how things turned out that we decided to do it again this year. We went to KARK-TV and chose one of the letters to Santa. Our family this time was a young single mother with two little boys. They came and had Christmas lunch with us and then the boys opened some of their gifts. The rest were sent home to be under the tree from Santa on Christmas morning. The old saying "It is better to give than to receive" really is true. It made the meaning of Christmas come true for each one of us.

Our only grandma is grandma again! Margaret Hudson's daughter, Jenny Hillman, gave birth to a little girl on January 5. Leigh Anne Hillman weighed 7 pounds and 1 ounce. That makes two girls and a boy for Motney!

Ataris were the big thing for Christmas in Photogrammetry this year. Sue Walls has had one for several months and has become a real

addict. Randy Boyd has graduated from an Atari to an Atari Computer System 800. Roy and Brenda Walden bought their two crumb grabbers one as did Farrell and Tina Adams. Richard and Roseanne Finkle just have one crumb grabber at home, but he got one too! From the way it sounds, the dads are a little embarrassed because the kids keep winning and won't give them a chance.

PLANNING DIVISION

Congratulations to Mapping and Graphics employee John Milliken, whose daughter, Tracy, graduated December 17 from the Baptist System of Nursing Training. Tracy is presently employed by the Arkansas Children's Hospital as a Registered Nurse.



Tracy Milliken (right)

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Mike Webb, Assistant Head of the Public Transportation Unit, was finally dragged to the matrimonial alter by Cindy Talley, who works in Roadway Design. We would like to congratulate Mike on his good fortune and we wish Cindy the best in coping with whatever the future has in store. . . another match made in 'heaven'.

Mike also deserves our congratulations for five years of dedicated service to the Department. We hope his tenure will be long and productive.

Rick Boyd has left the Department to enter the world of private enterprise. Rick will be missed by all and we wish him luck in his new endeavor.

Welcome to Ron Smith, our newest employee. We are all enjoying a new face in the office and look forward to working with Ron in our efforts to further public transportation in Arkansas.

REPRODUCTION

We welcome Marie Hood to our Map Sales Section. Marie lives in Conway. She is married and has a 14-month old son, David. Her hobbies are cooking, sewing, basketball and church work.

Some of our employees got together just before Christmas and had dinner at Mexico Chiquito. Everyone had a good time and plenty of food.

Congratulations to our newest grandmother, Bonnie Hodges. Christopher Robert was born January 14 and weighed 7 pounds and 12½ ounces. The proud parents are Suzanne and Robert Burnett.

Congratulations to Ava and David Harding on the birth of their second grandson, Steven Michael, born November 5, weighing 8 pounds and 14 ounces. Steven's parents are Donna and Bob Williams of Niceville, Florida.

Sherri and Ronnie Henderson are the proud parents of a baby girl, Amanda Michelle, born November 26, weighing 8 pounds and 2 ounces. She is a little doll. Sherri has resigned to become a fulltime mother and housewife.

This smiling, happy face belongs to Robert Cagle's nephew, John Hughes, born last September. He is the son of Kenny and Debi Hughes and is the grandson of Gene Cagle.



John Hughes

Janean and Frank Knowles celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary at Murry's Dinner Playhouse.

Tommy Daniel's wife, Barbara, was nominated "Airman of the Year." She is in the Refueling Section at LRAFB. Congratulations, Barbara, this is quite an honor. She is making a trip to Hawaii the last of February in connection with a training program.

Tommy's daughter, Lisa, is entering the Spelling Bee Contest at her school sponsored by the Arkansas Gazette. The winner at school will go to semi-finals at the Old State Capitol. The winner there will get an expense paid trip to Washington D.C. to enter the finals. They are giving some real nice prizes to the winners. Good luck, Lisa!

RIGHT OF WAY

Floyd Rippond, a Right of Way Plans Designer in the Engineering Section, received his 5 year pin and certificate in January. Fred Williams, Chief of the Engineering Section, presented the certificate and refreshments were served to those present.



Fred Williams and Floyd Rippond

TRAFFIC

We would like to welcome two new employees this issue. They are Roosevelt Bradley and Anthony Robinson. Our congratulations go to Ron Johnson for 5 years of service in January; Junior Jones for 15 years of service in February; and Mike Jester for 5 years of service in March. Welcome and congratulations to all of you.

Deer season came and went with a flurry of activities. There were five successful hunters this season and they were: Chester Jester, who got a 7-point from Lafayette County; Frank Blalock got a 6-point and a 4-point from Yell County; Bob Williams got an 8-point from IZard County; Howard Stoebener got an 8-point from Sharp County; and Ben Denton went to Colorado and brought back one elk and one deer.

We held our annual Christmas party on December 17 and had a feast. The main dishes were turkey, elk, and ham along with all the trimmings. Special guests were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Venable, Mr. Gip Robertson, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hesselein. All of us had a good time and we would like to thank everyone who helped with our dinner. We hope to see all of you again next year.

On New Year's Eve, while everyone was preparing to go out and live it up, Lee Gibbons, Traffic Services Section Head, was in Houston, Texas attending the Blue Bonnet Bowl.

Betsy and Mark Kimmel are anxiously awaiting the arrival of their second child which is due to make an appearance in mid-April. They are hoping for a girl this time around.

We were sorry to see two members of our crew leave this issue. C.E. Voyles left after 9 years of service for health reasons, and H.H. Currie retired after 15 years of service. We wish these men the best!

DISTRICT ONE

Thursday, October 21, 1982, was Awards Day for District One. We had twenty employees with 15 or more years of service who were honored with cake and punch at the District Headquarters. Those with 15 years of service were John Alls, Eddie Smith and Lawrence Edwards, Crittenden County; J.C. Keen, Woodruff County; George McDaniel, Monroe County; Dale Thurman, District Wide Bridge Crew; and Hugh Vance, Monroe County.

Employees with 20 years of service were Arthur Cole, West Memphis Residency; A.J. Glover, District Wide Maintenance Crew; and Jimmy South, Wynne Residency.

Honored with 25 years of service were James Spencer, District Wide Maintenance Crew; Ralph Vickers, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent; and Calvin Voyles, West Memphis Residency.

Recognition for 30 years of service went to Bobby Wright of Woodruff County.

Last, but not least, was Virgial Shassere, former Resident Engineer from West Memphis receiving his 35 year pin. Virgial retired this past summer, and says he is really enjoying his retirement. Mildred Stacy, District Office Manager, also received her 35 year pin, and we hear she may follow Virgial in retirement soon. The total combined years of service for these employees represents more than 400 years of dedicated work for the AHTD and we are proud of each one of them.

We also had four retirees recognized at this time. Curtis Baker, who was Crew Leader in the Cross County Maintenance Crew, retired this summer with 18 years of service. Johnny Ball also retired in the summer from the same crew where he was a truck driver. Garland Pierce retired from the District Wide Bridge Crew with 15 years of service and Jack Shirley who worked on the District Wide Maintenance Crew retired with 29 years of service. We wish each of these a happy retirement, and hope they will remember us during fishing season.



35 Years – Mildred Stacy and Virgil Shassere



30 Years – Bobby Wright



25 Years – Calvin Voyles and James Spencer



20 Years – A.J. Glover



15 Years – Lawrence Edwards, George McDaniel, Eddie Smith, Hugh Vance, John Alls, J.C. Keen, and Dale Thurman.



RETIREES – Virgil Shassere, Jack Shirley, Johnny Ball and Curtis Baker.

Ann Griffin, District Fuel Clerk, and three friends took off for the World's Fair for three days the last of September. Since she was the only one in the office who was lucky enough to go, we were all anxious to hear about it when she got back. With Ann driving, who admits she cannot read road signs, we were not too sure they would make it, but she said they only got lost once, and had a great time at the Fair and at Nashville where they stopped on the way back.

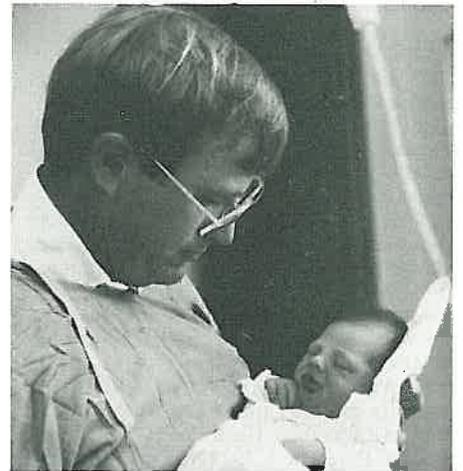
We have four employees from District One who attended the Asphalt Institute and are now certified in asphalt plant inspection. They are Tom Baker, Phillip Norman, Glen Reed, and Vernon Sanders.

Congratulations to John and Sandra Smith who were married September 25. They had a lovely garden wedding at the home of the bride's parents. John is the station attendant at District One Headquarters and one of the friendliest people around. He always has a smile on his face and a kind word for everyone. We wish John and Sandra many years of happiness.



Mr. and Mrs. John Smith

Congratulations are in order to G.R. "Rick" Owens, Resident Engineer at West Memphis, and his wife, on the birth of their first child. A son, James Andrew, was born on September 20. Rick is pictured admiring his new son, and anyone who has held their newborn child for the first time knows what a thrill that is.



Rick and Drew Owens

Gary Jackson, from the West Helena Resident's Office, was lucky to have shot two deer this season, one 9-point and one 6-point. His son, James, killed a spike buck. Maybe we'll have some pictures of this later.

Ricky Hudson's wife, Brenda, graduated in June from Phillips County Community College and received her nursing degree. She is specialized in Intensive Care-Newborn and received this additional training from Baptist Medical School of Nursing. Ricky is a Con-

struction Aide for the West Helena Resident's Office.



Brenda Hudson

Two of our former summer employees have gone to work fulltime for the AHTD in the Central Office. Wesley George, son of our Maintenance Supt., Calvin George, graduated in December from the U of A with a B.S. in Civil Engineering and is presently enrolled in the orientation program. He and his wife, Lisa, have recently moved to Little Rock. Lisa is also a graduate of the U of A and is presently job hunting in the Little Rock area.

Charles Hart graduated in December from the University with a degree in Civil Engineering and he is presently in the same orientation program. Congratulations to both Wesley and Charles and best wishes on the starting of their careers.

Congratulations to the following crews who earned Safety Certificates for 1982: District Wide Sign Crew, Monroe County Maintenance Crew, Phillips County Maintenance Crew, West Helena Resident Engineer's Office and Wynne Resident Engineer's Office. We congratulate these crews on having an accident free year.

DISTRICT TWO

The Maintenance Certificate Award has been highly successful this year and through the efforts of each crew numerous improvements have been made. Heading the list of winners of 1982 and thus being named the Top Crew of 1982, was the crew in Lincoln County and Area Foreman Richard Morgan. Congratulations to a hard working crew for winning this prestigious award. The high point crew for the month of October was the crew in Jefferson County with Area Foreman Bill Johns and Crew Leader E.W. "Pee Wee" Pridgeon accepting the certificate. Also new at winning the award was the crew in Cleveland County and Area Foreman Rick Neal. It was nice to have another new winner for the month of December. The Chicot County Crew and Area Foreman L.J. Bishop was the high rated crew.



Richard Morgan and Sam Smith



E.W. Pridgeon, Bill Johns and Sam Smith



Rick Neal and Sam Smith



L.J. Bishop and Sam Smith

All the employees in District Two participated in the Driver Improvement Course recently. This is a one-day course presented by the Office of Driver Control through the Arkansas Revenue Division. Also the Cotton Belt Railroad spoke on their program "Arkansas Operation Lifesaver" which is concerned with railroad crossing safety.

Congratulations to the following employees who were presented service awards by District Engineer Sam Smith. C.E. Woodfield, Maintenance Superintendent, received his 30 year award and also W.G. Peterson, a Finish Crane Operator on the Bridge Crew, received his 30 year service award.



C.E. Woodfield



W.G. Peterson

Others recognized were R.L. Brantley, Crew Leader in Drew County, 20 years; Walter L. Jones, Truck Driver and Mower Operator at DeWitt for 15 years. Those presented 10 year awards were Sammy R. Horton, Truck Driver and Mower Operator at DeWitt, Bettye B. Car-

ter, District Permit Officer and James A. Wolfe, Asphalt Plant Inspector in the Pine Bluff Resident Engineer's Office.

We are always proud of grandchildren and Allie and Mellie Stewart of Rison have a darling granddaughter, Karen Andrea Taylor. Born September 13, 1981 she is the daughter of Jim and Ailene Taylor. Mr. Stewart is a retiree from District Two.



Karen Andrea Taylor

Gerald White wanted us to see the deer horns from his kill during the last season. Hunting is always good in Ashley County where Gerald is the Area Foreman.



Gerald White

We hope everyone enjoyed their Christmas season and we wish for all a very successful new year. From all the reports in District Two it seems this was a very nice Christmas for all. We celebrated with a lot of food in all the offices and best of all was the fellowship and good will. It's always pleasant for fellow employees to get together for a good time.

E.J. "Johnny" Linneman and his wife announce the marriage of their daughter, Leslie, to Robert Lavon Cathey. The Linneman's live at Rison where Johnny is a Carpenter with the District Bridge Crew. Congratulations to the new couple and best wishes from all of us.



Mrs. Robert L. Cathey

DISTRICT THREE

The District Three employees and their families had their Annual Christmas Dinner at the Hope Fair Park Coliseum on Friday evening, December 10. The menu consisted of turkey and dressing and ham with all the trimmings. Entertainment was furnished by the Southern Price Band of Magnolia. Special guests were Mr. & Mrs. James Mansfield, Mr. & Mrs. Duane Sowell and Mr. Pat Sullivan with his guest Ms. Sharon Prince, all of the Central Office in Little Rock. Charles Mitchell, District Engineer, took this opportunity to present the Service Awards to those with 25 or more years of service with the Department. Those receiving 25 year Service Certificates were Kenneth Kidd, R.E. "Buddy" Calhoon and Donald Embry. Bryan Duncan received a 35 year Service Certificate and Sam Huckabee was to receive a 30 year Service Certificate but he was unable to attend. We would like to express our appreciation to our Christmas Party Committee, John William Barham, Joey Waddle and LaVerne Arledge for a very enjoyable evening. We would also like to thank "Santa Claus" Jim Karnowski.

Lile and Vicki Richardson of Hope announce the arrival of their first child, a daughter. Arla Loel arrived November 22 at 11:18 p.m. weighing 6 pounds and 1½ ounce. Lile is employed in the Hempstead County Area Crew.



Arla Loel Richardson

James and Barbara Braddock of Hope announce the arrival of their first child, a son. He arrived November 10 weighing 8 pounds and 5 ounces. Grandparents are Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Smith. Thomas is employed as a District Wide Operator.



Baby Boy Braddock

Congratulations to the following on their years of service with the Department, Carl Bramlett, Dale Hopkins and R.E. Lambert, 5 years; Larry Myers and Earl Gene White, 15 years; Leroy Zachry, 20 years; and Curtis Crow, 25 years.

Texarkana Residency

Welcome to Ronnie Garner and family. Ronnie is the Texarkana Resident Engineer and was formerly at the Yellville Residency. He and his wife, Annette, have two children, Ranette and Ron, Jr. Ronnie is an avid sportsman and enjoys elk hunting in Colorado and also duck hunting. Annette works for the City of Texarkana and attends night classes at E.T.S.U. Ranette, a straight "A" student, is a junior at Arkansas High School and Ron, Jr. was chosen last year as "Outstanding Young American Artist" in the Elementary Schools and congratulations are in order.

Patti Clowers, Construction Helper, and family enjoyed a very interesting and educational trip to Disney World and the EPCOT Center during the holidays.

Jim Karnowski, Assistant Resident Engineer, was the 'Captain' in the fall production of the "King and I" presented by the Texarkana Community Theatre. Marcia Candelaria, 16 year old daughter of Field Clerk Gloria was the Choreographer and principal dancer.

Leroy Ray and Dale Fulmer proudly display their "catch" of bass which were caught at Millwood Lake. The largest weighing 4 lbs.



Hope Residency

Best wishes to Birt Price, who retired in December after 15 years of service with the Department. The office gave him a going away party and presented him with a western belt. We all miss Birt, but we wish him well.



B.M. Price

DISTRICT FOUR

We're smack dab in the middle of winter now, but spring is officially only two months away. Talk about anticipation.

Speaking of anticipation, Julie Jones, our co-op student, was selected from among 7000 applicants to be among the 500 young men and women participating in this year's "Up With People" casts. She is off to Tuscon, Arizona to begin the tour, which will take her through the United States and overseas. We are all very proud and happy for Julie and wish her the best of times, but it just won't be the same around here without our Little Miss Sunshine.



Julie Jones

On December 17, this District held its annual Open House, Awards Presentation and Reception. We had a real nice turnout and our special guests included Commissioner and Mrs. F.H. Martin and Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Gray. Commissioner Martin presented service certificates to Bob Mainer, Ed Slaughterbeck, Vard Carpenter, and Roy Williams for 25 years of service. Others who received awards but were unable to attend were F.I. Barber, 30 years and retirement; Archie Lewis, retirement; and Nick Mings, 25 years.

Odis Seaton, Motor Patrol Operator, Sebastian II, received his 15 year certificate of service from Area Foreman David Becker. You know,

this is the only time I've ever seen Odis without his hat on!

Randall Barnette, Construction Instrument man, received his 10 year certificate from Resident Engineer Dale Spencer at Mena. Our congratulations and thanks to all these men for their long and dedicated service.

The Greenwood Crew (Sebastian I) held their annual Christmas dinner for the employees and their families. Area Foreman Mark Williams tells me that everyone had a real good time and stuffed themselves on an incredible amount of good food. They are already looking forward to next year.



Greenwood Crew

There was some success among the hunters at the Mena R.E. Office, Randall Barnette bagged a 9-point mule deer during his Colorado trip, G.M. Rose and C.W. Lance (deer slayers) each got a 3-point. Allan Hardin, Headquarters Attendant at Westfork, is showing off an arm load of nice pheasants from his trip to Cauldwell, Kansas. Allan's success is just one trip more than surpassed my tally in five years. . . maybe next time I'll go to Cauldwell.



Hardin

The Springdale Residency has two new employees, Phyllis Markey, Field Clerk and Dean Nichols, C.E. I. Phyllis has a B.A. in Economics and has worked in real estate the last 8 years. She has two children, John, 12 and Janell, 10.

Her hobbies include reading and all kinds of arts and crafts. She also likes plants, as anyone who has been to the Springdale Office recently can attest to.

Dean is almost an "old hand" with the Highway Department. He worked from August 1974 to September 1977, when he returned to school. Attending both the College of the Ozarks and the U of A, he received his B.S. in Civil Engineering in December 1982. He is a member of the U of A Chapter of Chi Epsilon. He is married to Debbie, a dental assistant, and their daughter, Candy, is 8. They are also expecting another child in August. Dean enjoys fishing, hunting and softball.

Congratulations to Robin Linn, Inspector, for his 5 year service award.

Glen Faulkner, Senior Inspector, had two pieces of news for us this time. His daughter, Angela, was a Color's Day Maid at Prairie Grove High School. Glen and family also went to Monterrey, Mexico the second week of December. They had a mexican youth for a tour guide and there was a definite communications gap, but a good time was had by all.



Angela Faulkner

Bob Hausam, Asphalt Plant Inspector, also ventured into Mexico. He and sons, Shane and Jubal, went while spending Christmas with his parents in southern Texas. Bob says that he is definately going back next year.

John Markey, son of Phyllis Markey, and Billy Goff, son of Jim Goff, Senior Inspector, recently qualified for advancement in the Boy Scouts. John to Tenderfoot Scout and Billy to Second Class Scout. Congratulations to both.



Markey - Goff

On November 30, our Office Manager, Emily Rogers, retired after 20 years with the Department. We had a potluck dinner in her honor and presented her with a lovely gift. Her husband, John, the Office Staff, Shop Crew and Area Foremen attended. Emily was a whiz bang and all of us who counted on her for that expertise will certainly feel the void. Our many thanks Emily, for all you did and our many wishes for your happiness.



John and Emily Rogers

We had another retiree in November, Olin Crawford, guard. Olin had 15 years with the Department. The office surprised him with a nice coffee and cake party and many thanks and wishes for a super retirement.



Olin Crawford



Mainer, Slaughterbeck, Martin, Carpenter, and Williams



Seaton - Becker

DISTRICT FIVE

Congratulations to the following employees on their years of service with the Department: Gary C. Anderson and S.L. Ivy, 25 years; John R. Lewallen and Lavan McDaniel, 15 years; Danny H. Jones and Carl V. Kuykendall, 5 years.

The 1982 Service Award and Retiree Party was held at the District Headquarters on December 17. Commissioner Raymond Pritchett presented the awards to the retirees and employees with 25 or more years of service. Everyone appreciated the Commissioner's presence and thoroughly enjoyed his informative remarks.



Mr. & Mrs. David T. Neighbors



Mr. & Mrs. Verlon Roberson



Mr. & Mrs. G.C. Anderson



Mr. & Mrs. S.L. Ivy



Retiree Wallace Creswell



Retiree & Mrs. Alfred J. Courtney



Retiree & Mrs. R.G. Burge



Retiree Kenneth O. Carpenter

On December 22, the Bald Knob crew held their annual Christmas dinner at the Bald Knob Area Headquarters. Honored guests were Clif Martin, Assistant District Engineer and the following retired employees of the Bald Knob Area: R.D. Bogard, Shelby Cooper, Faite Denniston, Jewel McDaniel and Shelby Wools. Also attending was Joe Wilkerson, a former

summer employee. The crew members in attendance were John Odom, Area Foreman; Lavan McDaniel, Crew Leader; Kermit Gay, Spencer Land, George Mathis, Dennie Nixon, James Patterson, Donnie Schmidt, and Jacob Schmidt. We hear they had plenty of food and a good time.



Bald Knob Employees

We have at least two successful hunters since our last issue. Our own Clif Martin, Assistant District Engineer, is shown with one of the two 8-point bucks he bagged in November. Roy Dean Pitts, Motor Patrol Operator in Stone County, killed his 10-point deer with a muzzle loader.



Clif Martin



Roy Dean Pitts

Congratulations to Danny and Denise Watson on the birth of their first child, Ryan Adam, on November 15. Little Ryan weighed 6 pounds and 8 ounces. Danny is a Stock Clerk in the District Stockroom.

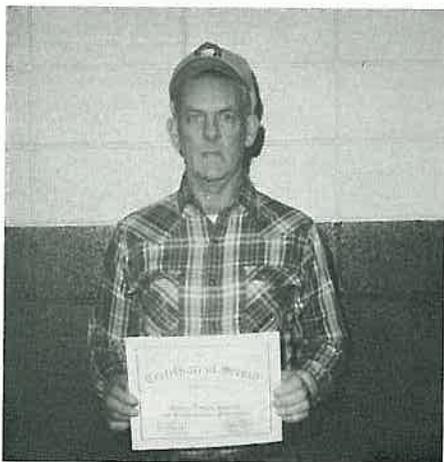
We congratulated Orville Gold, Station Attendant, for 20 years of service in our last news, the picture shown was taken after the news deadline.

We were honored with a special visit from little Jacob Martin, grandson of Clif and Jane

Martin, and son of Curt and Marcia Martin of Batesville. Jacob is shown in the picture modeling his "First Christmas" suit. He is a cutie.



Ryan Adam Watson



Orville Gold



Jacob Martin

DISTRICT SIX

Fred Doles and crew, from South Pulaski County, celebrated Christmas by going to a local buffeteria for dinner and fellowship. A great time was had by all.



DISTRICT SEVEN

Another season of "buck fever" has passed along with the football games and we are currently into basketball and tall "turkey" tales.

Among those of our crew who had a successful deer hunt this season were: District Engineer Coy Campbell, and his sons, Mark and Scott. Mark and Scott each killed a 6-point buck. District Maintenance Superintendent John Livingston bagged a 5-point buck. James Jones, Crew Leader, killed a 3-point buck during the November hunt and a 4-point buck during the December hunt. Stan McMahan, son of Chick and Henrietta McMahan (District Payroll Clerk) killed a 5-point buck. Congratulations to these happy hunters and to you others, better luck next year!

Crew Leader James Jones is pictured with this 10-point trophy which was killed by his son, Ray Jones. Ray resides in Camden and is the owner of McDonald's Restaurant.



James Jones

Camden Lodge No. 11 Free and Accepted Masons celebrated their 138th anniversary on December 18. Newly elected officers for 1983 were installed including three District 7 employees. Bernard Wayne Mize, District Materials Supervisor, was installed as Worshipful Master; Donald Floyd Fain, Station Attendant, Senior Warden; and Samuel T. Bradshaw, Crew Leader, Tyler. Sam served as Worshipful Master for the 1982 year. Congratulations men.

Theresa B. Griffis, daughter of District Sealing Job Superintendent and Mrs. George E. Griffis, is a talented Physical Education major and teacher. She works at Webster Jr. High School in Minden, Louisiana. Her capabilities have been proven so well that head football coach, Elliot Gilbert, requested that she be added to his staff. Not only does she serve as Assistant Football Coach, she is also the head Baseball Coach for the 8th and 9th grades at Webster.

Not many women are given the opportunity to coach a football team, but Theresa is an unusual and capable person. In a feature article in "The Minden Press Herald", Principal O.D. Mims commented, "She has all the respect that you can ask of the players, fans and teachers. All the kids are proud of her. They really boost her on." In the same article, Coach Gilbert stated, "I didn't give her the opportunity, she earned it. Right now, I'd rather have her than anybody else. But I'd better stop talking so much - somebody else may try to take her away from us..." Congratulations Theresa and keep up the good work.



Theresa B. Griffis

Angela Kirkpatrick, daughter of District Fuel Clerk Charlotte Kirkpatrick, is a 15-year old ninth grade student at Fairview High School. She is a member of the Fairview Senior Band where she is an accomplished keyboard percussionist, playing the Marimba and Xylophone. She holds First Chair in the Senior Band and also in Region First Band. She is pictured with a trophy which was awarded to her as Outstanding Soloist at Henderson State University's Band Contest. This is quite an honor as competition at this contest is keen with students from across the state competing. Angela is a cheerleader for the Cardinal Teams and was elected Freshman Class Beauty this year. Congratulations Angie!



Angela Kirkpatrick

Resident Engineer A.W. Hardy and his wife, Bertha, are beaming about the birth of their grandson. Phillip Michael Barrett, son of and Mrs. William Barrett, was born January 25 at Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock. He weighed 8 pounds and 4 ounces. He will be welcomed home by his brother, Will, and his sister, Anne.

DISTRICT EIGHT

Congratulations to those receiving service awards. They are: Ferrell Cato, 25 years; Kenneth Brown, 20 years; Gary Hawkins, Joe Sorrels, Willard Williams, Joe Shuffield, Tom Crites and R.A. Murdock, 15 years; Larry Williams, 10 years; John Davidson, Randall Freeman, Waymond Price and K.L. George, 5 years.

In the afternoon of December 17, District 8 celebrated its annual Christmas Open House. Our special guest was Highway Commissioner Raymond Pritchett who spoke to us and presented special awards. Netha Brown, our former Office Manager, was here to receive her retirement certificate. Lawrence Turner, or other retiree in 1982 was unable to attend. Many of our retired employees and their families stopped by to visit with us. We look forward each year to visiting with them all. Christmas goodies prepared by the office staff were served buffet style rounding out a very enjoyable afternoon for all.



Service Award Recipients



Retiree Netha Brown receiving certificate from Mr. Pritchett with husband Loren and son, Jim.

DISTRICT NINE

Congratulations to Gary and Glenda Roberts on the arrival of their baby son, Gannon, on December 1. Gannon has an older brother, Greg, and a sister, Galicia.

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Emerson announce the arrival of a son, Marcus Wayne, on December 24. Congratulations to the Emerson family that also includes 2-year old daughter Tiffani.

Marion and Carolyn Downs and his parents enjoyed the Christmas holidays in Amarillo, Texas with Curtis Downs, Jr. and family. Rev.

and Mrs. Curtis Downs, Sr. were honored on their 60th Wedding Anniversary with a reception at Dell, Arkansas on January 15.

Mr. & Mrs. Mike Brasel are the proud parents of a baby daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, who was born on October 31.

Get well wishes are sent to Bill McMullen who is at his home recovering from surgery.

Belated congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. James House on the arrival of number two son, Travis Wayne. Their other children are daughter, Tanya, and son, Tim.

Welcome to our new Permit Officer, Robert Reddell.

On the afternoon of December 10, approximately 250 employees and their families and retirees gathered for the annual District 9 Christmas Party. Highway Commissioner F.H. Martin presented service awards to Ervin C. Widner and Vernie Berry, 30 years; and Calvin Rushing, 25 years. He also presented Ambassador Awards to Willis Cantrell, Paul Bennett, Jim Godfrey, Bill Perryman and Rudolph Shrable. Cider, coffee and cookies were served.

The 1982 AHTD Highway film, "Rough Roads Head" was shown by district personnel to various civic organizations and employees, a total of 572 people.

DISTRICT TEN

The biggest news in District 10 recently has been the flood early in December and then another one Christmas Eve. So much damage was done to the roads, bridges and homes that it is hard to believe, but as usual our people rose to the occasion and did a super job in helping.

Ted Miller, Single Axle Truck Driver/Mower operator and Loyal Moore, Crew Leader, both from Clay County, went deer hunting north of Hardy. A 5-point buck was taken by Ted with a 50 caliber muzzle loader and later Loyal filled his muzzle loader tag with a small buck. Loyal, his brother and Sterline White, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, Clay County, made a successful trip to Colorado and brought back an 8-point and a 4-point mule deer.



Ted Miller and Loyal Moore

The Shop, Stockroom and Office personnel and their families had a Christmas party in the shop at the District Headquarters in Paragould and had a good time eating and visiting. Santa Claus (alias District Engineer) made his grand entrance. We didn't see his reindeer because he came flying through the air on a hoist. (Quite effective). Most of the children were anxious to talk to him, but a few wouldn't have much to do with him. Jason, son of Maintenance Superintendent Lyndal Waits and wife, Shirley, didn't have any problem as he talked to Santa.



Santa Claus



Jason Waits and Santa

We do appreciate Mr. Lowder, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations, for coming up and sharing in our party and presenting Norman D. Pumphrey, District Engineer, his 30 year Certificate of Service and pin.



J.E. Lowder and Norman Pumphrey

Mr. Pumphrey in turn presented O.R. Ridge, Crew Leader, his 15 years Certificate of Service and G.F. Easton, Guard, his 10 year Certificate of Service. Congratulations to all these men.



Norman Pumphrey and O.R. Ridge



Norman Pumphrey and G.F. Easton

A.J. Blaylock, Construction Project Supv. in the Jonesboro Residency, recently underwent heart surgery - he had five bypasses. The report is that he is doing fine. Hope he will soon be up and about.

Lyndal Waits was recently in the hospital for a week and then off from work for two more weeks with acute bronchitis. We sure missed him and are glad he is back in the harness.

1983 is the 100th birthday of the City of Paragould and Lyndal Waits is Chairman of the Paragould Centennial Commission. They couldn't have made a better choice. They have planned many interesting activities for the year and we are all looking forward to the birthday party.

The Resident Engineer's crew in Jonesboro got together and Bob Faulkner, Assistant District Engineer, presented Carl U. Williams, Res Office Technicain, with his 25 year Certificate of Service. Congratulations Carl!



Carl U. Williams

CENTRAL OFFICE SERVICE AWARDS



RETIREES

J.H. Day, Lydia K. Brasel, James T. "Peg" Harrell and Mayo L. White



35 YEAR AWARDS

Charles H. Tullos, Nathan E. Bingham, and Howard M. Stoebener.



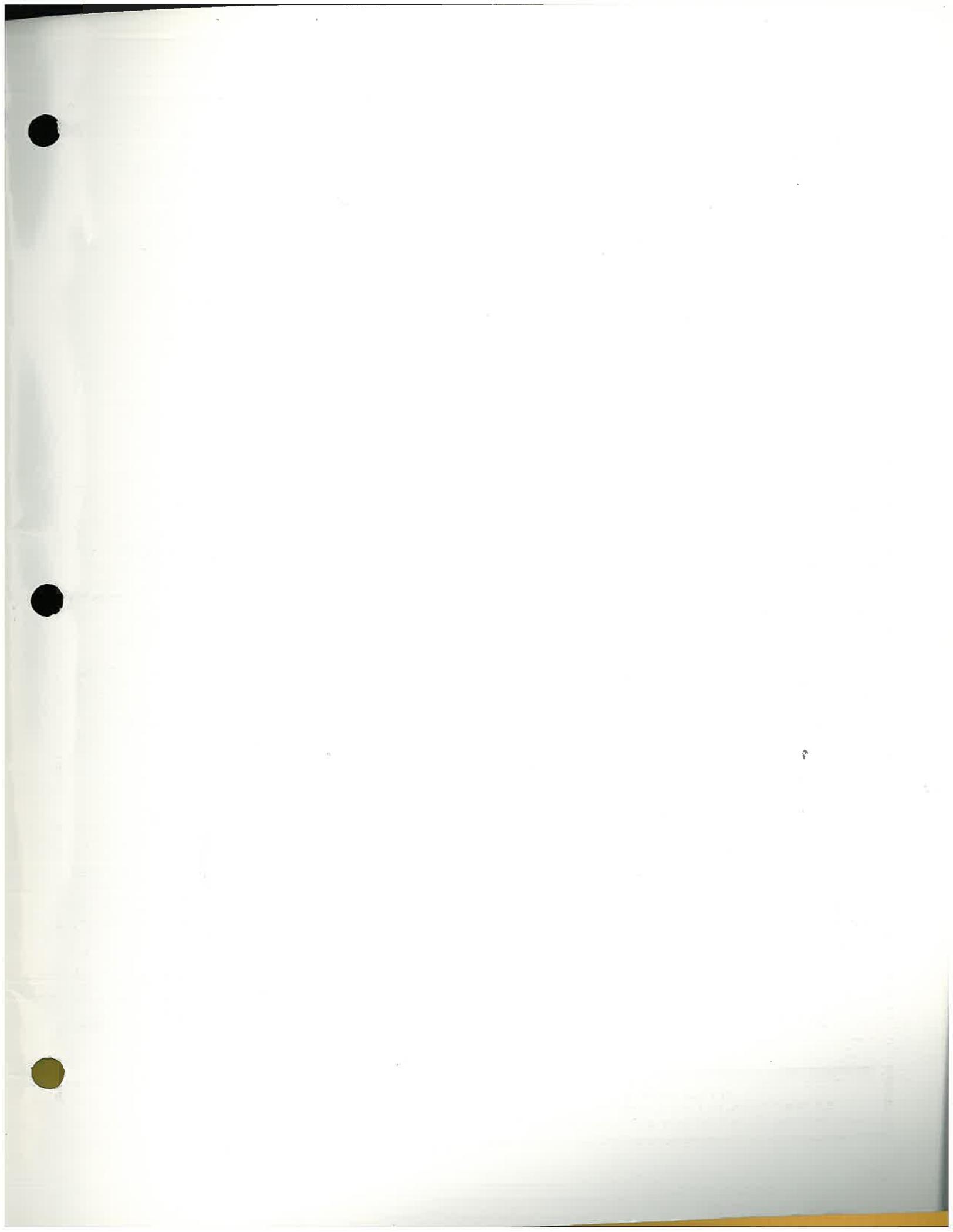
30 YEAR AWARDS

E.P. "Pete" Benetz, Jr., Frank R. Battisto, Bernie L. Cox, Troy Henderson, Henry H. McCrotty, R.C. Turney and Dallas Vire.



25 YEAR AWARDS

John W. Adams, Maurice D. Head, Herbert E. Hooten, Glendol Jackson and Ralph Smither.





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