

# Arkansas Highways



WINTER 1984



# Season's Greetings

With sincere warmth and gratitude,  
we wish you and your family a very happy holiday season.

## THE ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

David Solomon  
Chairman

Patsy Thomasson  
Vice Chairman

Raymond Pritchett  
Member

Bobby Hopper  
Member

Ron Harrod  
Member

Henry Gray  
Director of  
Highways and Transportation

B.K. Cooper  
Chief Engineer

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FRONT AND BACK COVER PHOTOS: State Highway 65 near  
Holder Creek in Searcy County. Photos by John Jackson.

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

## A TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER DAVID SOLOMON



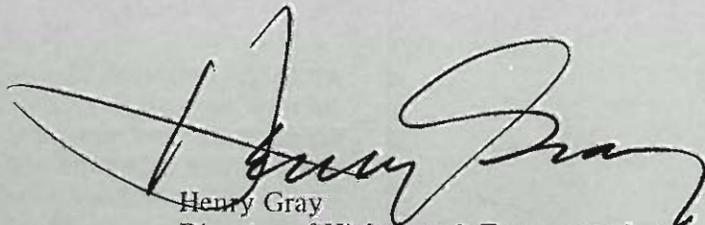
In January 1985 Commission Chairman David Solomon of Helena will step down after ten years of dedication and service to the State of Arkansas as a member and chairman of the Arkansas State Highway Commission.

David Solomon was appointed to the Commission by Governor David Pryor in 1975 at a time when rising petroleum prices were driving the costs of materials used in highway construction to their highest levels and motorists were reducing their driving in order to save on fuel costs. Highway revenues were dropping and the program was in trouble. He immediately proved to be the right man at the right time, and dedicated himself to the never-ending task of working for the betterment of the highway and transportation program in Arkansas.

He worked with the State Legislators in bringing about changes necessary to continue progress for Arkansas.

His ability to work with people in finding solutions to the many problems we faced, was attributed to his straight forward, no frills approach and integrity that have earned him the respect of all who have come in contact with him.

During his years as Vice Chairman and later as Chairman, he has set an example for us and the Commission. He will be missed by me and his fellow commissioners. We wish him well as he returns to "private life."



Henry Gray  
Director of Highways & Transportation

# BRIDGE PROBLEM WORSENS

## ARKANSAS RANKS 8th NATIONWIDE

Arkansas ranks eighth highest of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico in percentage of deficient bridges, according to the National Bridge Inventory of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Submitted to Congress earlier this year, the "Fifth Annual Report on the Highway Bridge Replacement and Rehabilitation Program" showed that nearly one-half of the nation's bridges were deficient.

In the past three years, the situation has worsened dramatically in Arkansas. The state has seen its number of deficient bridges increase by 16 percent since 1982, a year when it ranked 17th in percentage of deficient bridges.

In 1982, Arkansas reported 7,402 of its 14,493 bridges (51.1%) were deficient. In 1983, 7,947 of the state's 14,573 bridges (54.5%) were judged deficient. This year, Arkansas reports that 8,578 of the 14,609 bridges (59%) surveyed are either structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.

A structurally deficient bridge is one that has been restricted to light vehicles only, is closed to traffic, or must be rehabilitated immediately to remain open. A functionally obsolete bridge can no longer safely handle its current traffic load because of its narrow lanes, load-carrying capacity, or approach roadway alignment.

The status of the nation's bridges worsened, too. Since 1982, America has added nearly 12,000 bridges to its critical list. In 1982, participants reported that 248,527

bridges were deficient, or 44.6% of the 557,516 bridges inventoried. In 1983, 253,196 bridges were related deficient, or 44.9% of the 564,499

bridges surveyed. This year, 260,306 bridges are considered deficient, or 46% of the nation's 571,246 bridges.



Wooden timbers are used on many bridges in the state to provide additional support



Narrow, obsolete structures account for many of Arkansas' deficient bridges.

# GRAY ELECTED PRESIDENT

## ARKANSAS TO HOST SASHTO IN 1985

Henry Gray, Director of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, was elected president of the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO) at the SASHTO '84 meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi, October 23. He succeeds John Tabb, Director of the Mississippi State Highway Department. At the banquet concluding the meeting, Gray commended Tabb and the Mississippi Highway Department for their hard work in hosting the meeting.

Arkansas will host the SASHTO '85 meeting in Hot Springs September 15-17, 1985. Billy K. Cooper, Chief Engineer for Arkansas is Secretary-Treasurer for SASHTO '85.

Over 800 persons from the 12-member states attended the 43rd Annual Meeting in Biloxi, including 51 Arkansas delegates and spouses.

Public expectations and highway finance were the primary topics discussed in the General Opening Session.

Dick Braun, vice-president of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), said the public's perception of highway programs is one of the main problems faced by the states.

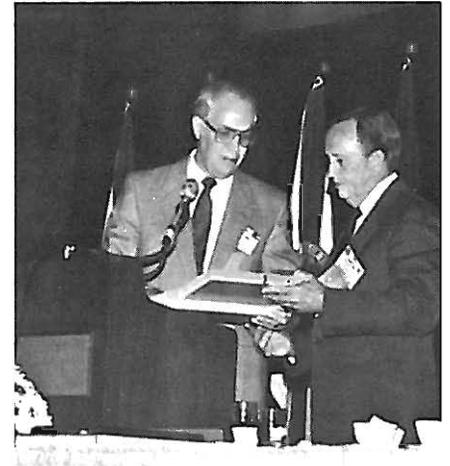
"Every delegation that comes in says they have the worse roads, the highest accident rates, etc.," Braun said. Each member of the public believes with the amount of money received by the highway departments, the department should be able to do each members special project. The public basically does not understand how the financing of highways works, he said.

"One legislator in my home state (Minnesota) asked me when enough is enough. There never will be enough dollars to do the job. This will never change, therefore, management and priorities become the issues," he said.

The first priority of the highway and transportation departments is to preserve the existing system, Braun said.

Based on the number of miles and the money available for improvements the states now rebuild every road on the average of once every 135 years, which Braun said was an improvement since that number use to be 372 years.

The highway program is the foundation of the economy, according to Ray Barnhart, Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration.



Henry Gray, right, receives his gavel from John Tabb as he begins his term as president of SASHTO.



Far Right: Arkansas FHWA Administrator Dick Fairbrother, left, and Assistant Chief Engineer Charles Venable discuss funding problems.

Bottom: Left to right: Highway Commissioner Bobby Hopper, District 4 Engineer Allan Holmes, and Highway Commissioner Raymond Pritchett visit with Don Knight of the Road Information Program (TRIP).



He also said the transportation system is extremely successful. Even with the success, however, Barnhart is concerned about the federal-aid highway program.

"We have \$7.2 billion we cannot release to the states because of the log jam in Congress," he said, referring to the freeze on the Interstate Cost Estimate. "The federal-aid highway program is the most valuable Federal-State program we have ever had, and it is being compromised. We have to stop that, and we have to pull together," Barnhart added.

The Board of Directors of SASHTO adopted two policy resolutions; one supporting the continuation of the distribution formula for Interstate 4R funds, and another calling upon AASHTO to act vigorously in seeking passage of an Interstate Cost Estimate.

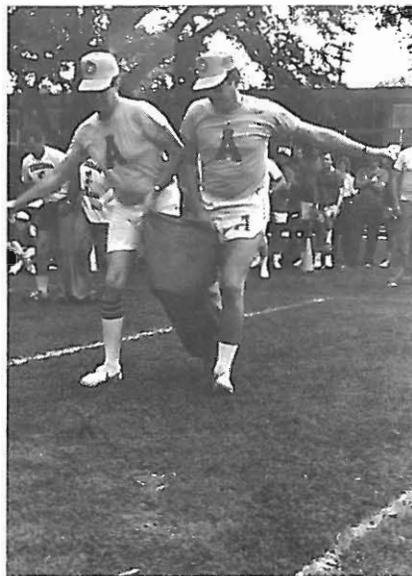
The Arkansas Travelers, Arkansas' team in the SASHTO '84 Olympics, overwhelmed the opposition and took home the trophy as the Overall Champions.

Under the coaching of Dan Flowers, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations, the Arkansas team came in first in the pistol shoot and sack race, and placed second in the special events, tricycle-a-thon, and basketball shuffle.

The Tennessee Turkeys placed second and the Alabama Bama Bunch placed third.



Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Dan Flowers displays the medals won by the Arkansas team at the SASHTO Olympics.



DE Ralph Fulton, left, and Bill Stanton show their winning form in the sack race which brought the team first place.



DE Coy Campbell, with blindfold, points his pistol at the target as Dan Flowers, in sunglasses, directs his aim.



DE Jim Selby gets a push from Asst. Public Affairs Officer Bill Stanton in the Tricycle-A-Thon.



DEs Joe Barnett, left, and Coy Campbell maneuver down the court in the basketball shuffle.

# LONGEST CAREER AT AHTD

## GAYLE GUNN RETIRES AFTER 45 YEARS



"SIX FIFTY FIVE TO UNIT ONE. FORTY FIVE YEARS AND SEVEN MONTHS IS LONG ENOUGH! I'M GOING CODE 7."

..... (NO SIGNAL)

"SIX... FIFTY... FIVE... CLEAR!"

"KAREN, IS IT RAINING?" "NO, GAYLE, NOT IN HERE!"

On October 31, 1984, Gayle Gunn, 69, Resident Engineer at Malvern, retired after 45 years, 7 months of service with the Highway and Transportation Department. No other employee has served that length of time, although John Harris, who was District Engineer at Pine Bluff when he retired in 1976, comes in a close second with 45 years, 3 months.

"When I started with the Highway Department in 1935, a job was a job, and you were mighty glad to get one," Gunn said. "I was paid 25-cents an hour and I worked with a pick and shovel."

Money was a serious problem in the late 30's, and, as a result, most highway construction was stop and go. Gunn's early career was one of stop and go as well. He was laid off the job on about half-a-dozen occasions because of lack of work. In one instance, Gunn received a raise from \$60 a month of \$75 a month and was then laid off two months later.

During the periods of time when he was not on the department payroll, Gunn held numerous other jobs, such as a presser for a dry cleaners in Sheridan,



State Highway and Transportation Department Director Henry Gray, left, presents Gayle Gunn with his 45-year Certificate of Service.

The cartoon on the left depicts Gunn's well-known use of the two-way radio. It was framed and presented to him at his retirement party on October 31.

a clerk at the Post Office, and a carpenter helper.

In 1942 he entered the Armed Forces and served in the Navy with a Seabee Battalion in the South Pacific. He was discharged in 1945 as a Chief Petty Officer. The first place he headed for was the Highway Department in search of a job. In 1946 he was hired as an Instrumentman in the Construction Division.

He worked for a private contractor in Missouri in 1951 and returned to the Highway Department in February 1952 as a Resident Engineer. He has been here ever since.

Gunn has seen many changes in the department over the years. "The biggest improvement has been the type of roads we build today and the machinery we have to build them with," he said.

"When I first started, we built a lower standard road. We didn't have the heavy equipment like we do now. The machines have really improved over the years and that has made a big difference," he added.

"It's remarkable the progress this state has made

in its highway system. I remember working on U.S. Highway 65 from Lake Village to the Louisiana line in 1940. Everytime I go down there now, I think of the wasteland that it was," he said.

Gunn also worked on U.S. 62 in the Eureka Springs and Berryville areas in the early 50's. "They just didn't have any roads up there in those days. Now look at it. The highways have got to come before progress moves in," he said, referring to the tremendous growth and tourist traffic.

Gunn was a Resident Engineer on some of the first Interstate Highway projects in Arkansas. He was in charge of work on the interchanges and structures on Interstate 55 near West Memphis in the late 50's and also supervised construction on Interstate 30 in the Arkadelphia area. At the time of his retirement, one of the projects assigned to him was the rehabilitation of some of the same sections of Interstate 30 he helped build nearly 20 years ago.

"It's amazing how the traffic volumes have increased on the interstates. When we started building those roads we had no idea there would be so much traffic. There wasn't near as many trucks then as there are now, either. Now, some of the trucks weigh almost twice as much as they did when those first interstates were built. That really makes a difference in the life of a road," he said.

After spending nearly 46 years with the same organization a person is bound to miss the job once he retires. Gunn said he will miss the work and all of the people he has been associated with.

"This is a fine organization. . . I'm not looking forward to retirement. I can't sit still, so I know I'll find something to do. I used to spend my vacation out looking at the road. I'll probably get out and look some more, after all, old habits are hard to break," he said.

## TEXARKANA TRANSIT SYSTEM DEDICATED

An estimated 100 people gathered in front of the U.S. Post Office in Texarkana Friday, September 21, for the official unveiling of EAGLE Transit, a public bus system that operates in the Texarkana area.

The system is one of eight Section 18 programs in the State and is jointly funded from rural public transportation federal Urban Mass Transportation Administration grants received by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department and the Texas State Department of Highways and Public Transportation. The AHTD's Public Transportation Unit administers the program.



Eagle Transit of Texarkana serves a five-county area in Arkansas and Texas.

Arkansas Highway Commissioner Ron Harrod addressed the crowd and praised the spirit of cooperation shown between Federal, State and local officials. Harrod also commented on the added economic benefit the area would receive from consumers being brought into the business districts of the area.

Berenda Cason, Director of the Texarkana Human Development Center, said during the unveiling ceremony that the new bus system "would not have been possible except for the tremendous support given by the Texarkana community and the joint efforts of both the AHTD and the Texas State Highway Department."



Highway Commissioner Ron Harrod speaks at the dedication of the new transit system in Texarkana.

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

## MULTI-STATE TASK FORCE PROVES SUCCESSFUL

The results of a multi-state task force operation conducted over a 48-hour period in October indicated that more emphasis on roving patrol units to check commercial truck traffic would bring about an increase in voluntary compliance with State laws by the trucking industry.

The Arkansas Highway Police Division of the Highway and Transportation Department, along with enforcement officers from Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma, participated in the task force operation October 28-30.

In Arkansas, 14,605 trucks were checked by AHP officers at five permanent port of entry stations and various spot locations with 35 roving patrol units.

A total of 9,113 trucks were weighed; 8,745 at the permanent stations and 468 by the roving units. AHP officers found 138 trucks in violation of legal weight limits; 39 were cited at the permanent stations and 99 were cited by the roving units. There were also citations issued by the Highway Police for 254 other violations; 13 were issued at the permanent

stations and 241 were issued by the roving patrol units. These violations included such things as license and registration, oversize loads, safety, hazardous materials and speeding.

The AHP also issued 941 trip permits and 48 Annual or Mileage decals for out-of-state trucks to comply with the Highway Use Equalization Tax.

According to John Bailey, Assistant Chief of the Highway Police Division, the operation pointed out the need for more enforcement with roving units on lower volume highways. "Although the majority of the trucks were checked at the permanent stations on the high volume highways, the vast majority of violations occurred on the low volume highways where there are no permanent stations. Had we not had the roving patrol units, those trucks would have passed through

Arkansas and never been checked because many were trying to avoid the permanent stations," he said.

The operation also furnished the Highway Police with information it can use to determine where, if any, additional permanent stations need to be located and where roving patrol units need to be assigned.

While the majority in the trucking industry is complying with state laws and regulations, many are purposely violating these laws and attempt to pass through the state by avoiding the permanent entry stations. With an increased emphasis on roving patrol units many of the potential violators will voluntarily comply with the laws in order to avoid being caught and assessed fines and penalties, Bailey added.

Because of the success of the



All trucks were required to stop at temporary check points along many of the highways on the state's border with neighboring states.



Portable scales were used to weigh trucks at the various temporary check points.

Task force, the AHP is working on plans for additional multi-state operations to include the neighboring states of Missouri, Tennessee and Mississippi.

"The various states need to be working together to solve the problem we are all having with illegal trucking. We cannot do it alone. By conducting multi-state operations, we can achieve greater compliance by the trucking industry," Bailey said.



Violations for unsafe tires was just one of many areas checked by AHP officers.



During flood



After flood

**OCTOBER FLOODING – MINOR DAMAGE REPORTED ON HIGHWAYS**

October 1984 has gone on record as the second wettest October in history. Heavy rains and flooding occurred in many parts of the state during the month. The photograph on the left shows water running over State Highway 338 in southwest Pulaski County. The photograph on the right shows where the shoulders of the highway were washed away. This type of damage was typical on many of the State's highways. In some instances, bridge approaches were also washed away and maintenance crews were kept busy repairing the damage after the floods.

# ARKANSAS TRANSIT ASSOCIATION

## FIRST ANNUAL CONFERENCE HELD

By John Haynie, Public Transportation Unit

The Little Rock Hilton Inn was the site of the first annual Arkansas Transit Association Conference held October 15 and 16. The organization, less than two years old, is made up of transportation providers throughout the State, related business and professional organizations and government agencies involved in the transportation field. The association is partially funded by an Urban Mass Transportation Administration grant to provide planning and technical assistance to transit providers in the state administered by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department.

Over eighty people registered for the conference representing all phases of the transit industry. The first general session was chaired by John Milligan, Transit Manager for Central Arkansas Transit and Executive Board President of the ATA. Welcoming addresses were presented by Mayor J.W. "Buddy" Benafield of Little Rock, State Highway and Transportation Director Henry Gray and Mike Gaines, a representative of the Governor's Office. Kickoff addresses were delivered by Dr. Scott Tuxhorn, Deputy Regional Administrator of UMTA Region VI and A.E. Johnson, Jr., Assistant Chief Engineer of Planning and Development of AHTD.

State Representative Bill Randall of Hot Springs was presented with a special "Friend of Transit Award" for his sponsorship of Act 863 of 1983. Act 863 provided almost \$300,000 in State funds

to transit providers in the State to assist in the obtaining of Federal transit assistance. Randall thanked the members of the association and said he was always open to innovative ideas like Act 863 that assist the growth of economic activities in the state.

Johnson touched on several subjects during his address, primarily concerning the financial stability and independent financial footing all transit systems must strive to achieve. Johnson cautioned all transit operators that budget balancing attempts by Congress will threaten the availability of Federal funds for transit and that rural states like Arkansas will suffer first, before states with large fixed rail and other large public transit facilities. Johnson



AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer Al Johnson



Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt



ATA Board members receiving awards from Congressman Hammerschmidt are from left to right: Jean Smith, John Milligan, Congressman Hammerschmidt, Jeanne Wingo, and Klye Nibert.

noted that the new Section 3 discretionary UMTA money, funded from the creation of the Mass Transit Account of the Federal Highway Trust Fund, is being used almost exclusively for large transit projects on the east and west coasts and in the densely populated states of the midwest. Despite efforts by Arkansas officials, Johnson said that the trend will probably continue and that monies for rural transit will not keep pace with the demand. Attempts are being made by the AHTD and other parties to obtain the many millions of dollars that are not being used in other states for rural transit, but Johnson said the Department was having to pursue a five-year program based on the idea that no new money from the Federal government will be made available to Arkansas for its transit programs. He urged all systems in the state to pursue any local dollar sources available to them and to be creative in the marketing of their systems to maximize their rate of return.

Tuxhorn echoed Johnson's statements and reminded the audience that the continued dependence on Federal funds for the operation of their systems will lead them down a path of self-extinction. Tuxhorn was sympathetic to the needs of rural transit operators, but stated that the political realities of the funding process in Congress left little hope for addi-

tional funding. He praised the Arkansas effort in public transit, noting particularly the ability of Arkansas transit systems to get above average life out of their vehicles due to an emphasis on preventive maintenance.

Following the morning session, three concurrent workshops were held for conference attendees. Vehicle Maintenance, Marketing, and Fund Raising were the topics for the one hour sessions organized by members of the ATA board.

U.S. Congressman John Paul Hammerschmidt of the Arkansas Third District, was the keynote speaker at the Luncheon Banquet following the Tuesday morning workshops. Hammerschmidt reported on the recent closing sessions of Congress and its attempts to pass a new Surface Transportation Assistance Act that would have increased transit funding for the coming year. Hammerschmidt noted that while that attempt failed, the Congress did pass a continuing resolution to fund transit at the existing levels and to pass the Bill, which also affects federal highway as well as transit funding.

Hammerschmidt then closed the conference by presenting appreciation awards to members of the ATA board the past year. Receiving awards were John Milligan of CAT, Kyle Nibert, Transit Manager of BRAD Public Transit in Pocahontas, Jean Smith, Transit Manager of SCAT in Malvern, and Jeanne Wingo, Transit Manager of NATS in Harrison.



Highway Commission Vice Chairman Patsy Thomasson was one of several Highway and Transportation officials in attendance at the conference.



State Representative Bill Randall of Hot Springs, right, receives a special "Friend of Transit Award" from John Milligan.

# DEDICATION

## TROLLEY CARS DEDICATED AT EUREKA

A combination of the beauty of the past and the technology of the present is now rolling through the streets of Eureka Springs. Three new trolleys were dedicated August 30 to provide intra-city transit to the estimated 1.5 million tourists that descend on this North Arkansas hamlet of 2,000 people annually.

The trolley cars were purchased under the Urban Mass Transportation Administration's (UMTA) Section 18 program administered by the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's Public Transportation Unit. Federal UMTA funds provided 80 percent of the cost of the \$130,000 trolleys with local funds providing the remaining 20 percent.

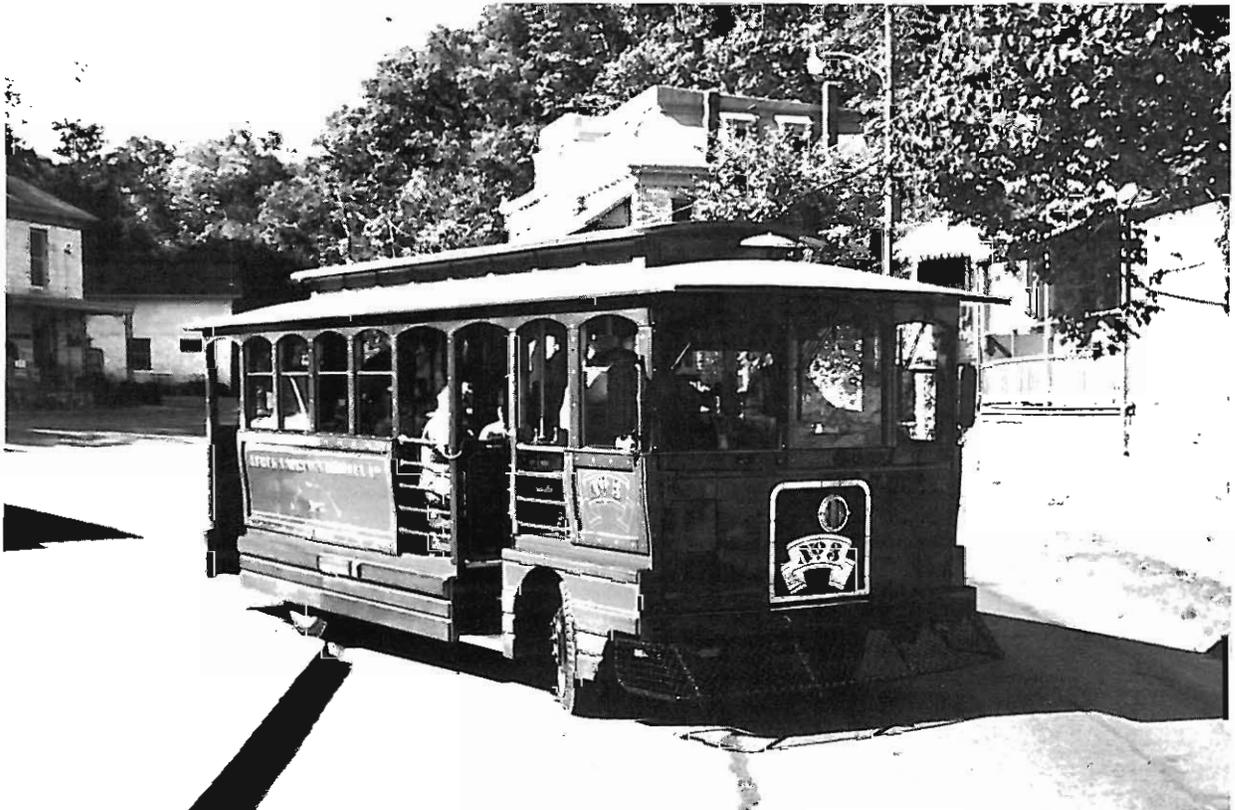
Formal dedication of the trolleys was held at historic Basin Park in downtown Eureka Springs. The keynote speaker for the event was Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton. Other speakers included Wilbur Hare, UMTA Regional Administrator from Fort Worth, Texas, and Mayor Don Thurman of Eureka Springs. Joining them on the podium were Arkansas Highway Commissioner Bobby Hopper and AHTD Public Transit Administrator Jim Head.

After a short ride on the Eureka Springs and

North Arkansas Railway into the train depot, forty other federal, state and local officials were given ceremonial first rides on the trolleys from the depot to the ceremonies at Basin Park. This emulated the use of the original Eureka Springs trolleys which transported visitors to the city from the train depot. The original trolley system started in 1891, was mule drawn, but was converted to electrical power in 1899. The trolley cars were abandoned in the 1920's as the automobile became king of the road.

Upon arrival of the trolleys at Basin Park, over 200 people were on hand to greet their arrival. Bob Purvis, director of the Eureka Springs Chamber of Commerce, introduced the speakers and other guests on the platform.

Mayor Thurman thanked all of the people involved in obtaining the trolleys and particularly praised the Highway and Transportation Department for its role in helping the city to obtain the trolleys. The AHTD is continuing to process and evaluate the city's application for other phases of the project, including the construction of a storage, maintenance, and administration building and several proposed



One of the new trolleys begins its run in downtown Eureka Springs.

park-and-ride lots. Any construction activities in the Eureka Springs area are complicated by environmental problems due to the historic nature of the city.

Noting that while 1984 is UMTA's 20th birthday, Hare remarked that this is only the second year UMTA has administered the Section 18 program. (It was previously administered by the Federal Highway Administration).

Governor Clinton praised the spirit of cooperation the acquisition of the trolleys represented. "These trolleys represent two things. It represents the partnership of federal, state and local governments with private industry and it is an example of the type

of progress we are making here in Arkansas," said Clinton. The Governor acknowledged that he was at first skeptical of the project, but the enthusiasm and hard work of all parties involved quickly convinced him of the feasibility of the idea.

Following the speeches, Hare, Mayor Thurman, Governor Clinton and Commissioner Hopper, christened the vehicles with bottles of Eureka Springs' natural mineral water.

The AHTD presently administers grants to eight Section 18 public transportation systems in the State that make well over 700,000 passenger trips annually.



Highway Commissioner Bobby Hopper breaks a bottle of Eureka Springs Natural Mineral Water on the grill of Trolley No. 3.



Governor Bill Clinton, left, speaks at the dedication ceremony while Highway Commissioner Bobby Hopper, right, AHTD Public Transportation Administrator Jim Head, and Chamber of Commerce Director Bob Purvis, look on.



# PUBLIC HEARINGS

## HIGHWAY 82 / RED RIVER BRIDGE

The Red River Bridge on Highway 82 at Garland in Miller County served the traffic needs well when it was first opened in 1931, but wear and tear have taken their toll on the 53-year old structure.

The 1850-foot bridge is only 20 feet wide and carries nearly 3900 vehicles a day of which 17.5 percent are heavy trucks.

The narrow bridge deck and structural deficiency, along with a high accident rate, qualify the bridge for replacement with Federal Bridge Replacement Funds on an 80/20 matching basis.

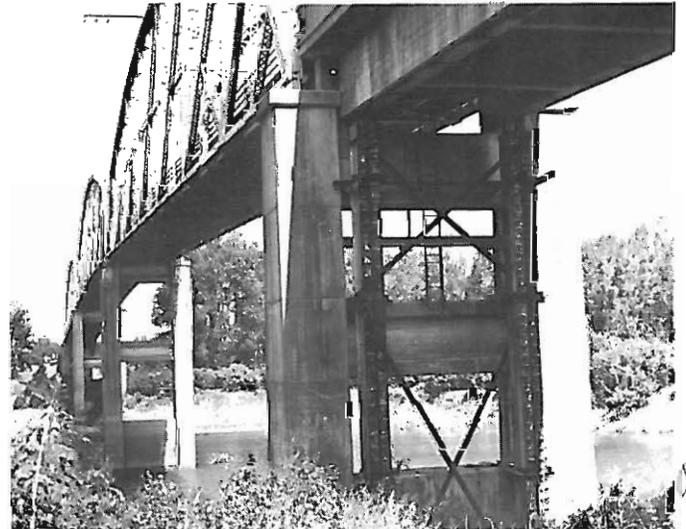
A public hearing to discuss four alternate proposals for replacement of the bridge was held in Garland August 28. The estimated cost of a new bridge and roadway approaches on new location ranges from \$6.1 million to nearly \$8 million, depending on which alternate is selected.

The new bridge will be approximately 1400 feet long with two 12-foot travel lanes and two 10-foot shoulders.

One of the concerns expressed by many of the speakers at the hearing was that the new bridge be designed to accommodate future navigation on the Red River.

Mayor Martha Franklin said the present structure is "an impediment to the development of the

city of Garland. Certainly relocating the bridge will change the traffic flow and cause some traffic to bypass the city's businesses. However, in the long run, a safe bridge will generate more traffic on Highway 82 and might make the city more attractive for industrial development," she said.



This pier on the Highway 82 Red River Bridge at Garland has been beefed up to provide additional support.

## WARREN BYPASS SUPPORTED

A packed courtroom of Bradley County residents expressed support October 2 for the department's plans to construct a 4.6-mile south bypass of Highway 4 around Warren.

Over 30 speakers made statements in favor of the project, including Chief of Police Tommy Dunaway. Dunaway said he was supporting the project for safety reasons. He pointed out that three intersections on the present route accounted for 36 accidents last year. "All of those intersections have 90-degree turns on Highway 4 and some of these accidents have been life-threatening," he said.

Other speakers also expressed a concern for safety and the need to improve economic development.

"We feel like in numerous ways that the project as proposed will benefit our existing businesses and industry and hopefully locate us some new industry in our industrial park," Greg Reep, Director of Community Development, said.

Letters of support were also read from U.S.

Senator Dale Bumpers and U.S. Representative Beryl Anthony.

It is the department's plans to begin acquiring right-of-way in 1985. Actual construction will depend on the availability of funds and will have to be built in stages.



A log truck makes a wide turn at one of the three 90-degree turns on Highway 4 in Warren.

## HIGHWAY 71 PROPOSAL SUPPORTED

There was practically no disagreement among the some 450 people who attended a public hearing in Van Buren October 16 on the need for a new highway between Interstate 40 and Fayetteville. However, as expected, there were different opinions on where the route should be built.

Seven possible routes for an interstate-type, four lane, divided highway were presented by the Highway and Transportation Department. The advantages and disadvantages of each route were explained by Assistant Chief Engineer Charles Venable.

Following the presentation, 64 persons entered statements in the record expressing their opinions on the various alternates.

As described in the Fort Smith Southwest Times Record, "The public meeting was a drastic change from hearings held in 1973 when no one spoke in favor of a new highway spanning the north-south corridor flanked by Arkansas 59 and the existing north-south route, U.S. 71."

Most of the speakers pointed to the need for improved safety and the economic benefits such a highway would provide for west and northwest Arkansas.



Assistant Chief Engineer Charles Venable explains the various alternates for the relocation of Highway 71.

Much of the discussion centered on Alternate "A", which would cost about \$170 million and be about 47 miles long; and on Alternate "E", which would cost between \$180 million and \$190 million and be about 43 miles long.

Alternate "A" begins at the interchange of Interstate 40 and Interstate 540 in Van Buren and roughly follows the old Butterfield stagecoach trail north through a portion of the Ozark National Forest and ends at the Highway 71 bypass at Fayetteville.

Alternate "E" begins in Alma on Interstate 40 just west of the existing Highway 71 and roughly parallels the highway to Chester where it turns back toward the west and north to tie in at the Highway 71 bypass.

Venable pointed out that funds are available for preliminary work leading to approval of a route by the Federal Highway Administration. Once a route is selected and approved, design work can begin and another public hearing will be held to discuss the design features.

Although it is not part of the Interstate System at this time, once a new highway is built, it will be designated a part of the system. However, the department must have the funds obligated for the entire route in the next 11 years. Venable said he was hopeful that Congress would approve funds for construction next year. Because of the need to have everything ready for contract when funds become available, Venable said the department plans to proceed as rapidly as possible.

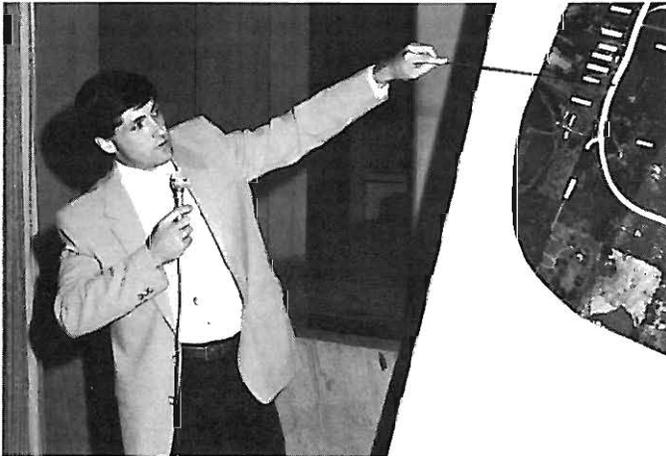


Over 450 people crowded into the Van Buren High School cafeteria to comment on the highway location alternates.

## EASTERN BYPASS DISCUSSED AT HOPE

A majority of the nearly 300 people in attendance at a public hearing in Hope, November 1, expressed support for an eastern bypass around their city.

One speaker, C.W. Kelly, representing the Hope-Hempstead County Chamber of Commerce and County Industrial Foundation, said the bypass would have a positive economic effect on the downtown area. He said the removal of heavy truck traffic



Roadway Design Engineer Bob Walters explains the Highway 29 Bypass.

from the heart of the city would increase safety as well.

Hope Mayor Floyd Young also pointed to the safety features and said the highway would link the north and south sides of Hope.

The bypass would begin at the intersection of Highway 29 and East 23rd Street, proceed along 23rd Street as a four-lane facility for about 3,000 feet and then turn north and narrow down to two lanes. The highway would continue north and intersect with Highways 29, 4, and 67 before turning back toward the west and intersecting with Highway 29 near the Interstate 30 access ramp. The total length of the new highway would be about 4.5 miles.

Roadway Design Engineer Bob Walters said the bypass would carry about 2,000 vehicles a day when it is opened and is projected to carry about 4,600 vehicles per day in 20 years. Twenty-three percent of the traffic would be large trucks.

Although Federal Primary Funds are not available at this time for construction, the Department will continue to complete the design and submit a request for approval to the Federal Highway Administration. Walters said that federal approval could come by next summer or fall.

## EDUCATORS-IN-INDUSTRY

### PARTICIPANTS LEARN OF DEPARTMENT'S NEEDS

Preparing the high school student for the real work-world is becoming increasingly important for today's economic climate, and Educators-in-Industry, a graduate course offered through the University of Arkansas, provides an opportunity for teachers to learn first-hand about the needs of business, manufacturing and service industries.

This career education class is modeled after a 20-year General Electric Program that allows educators to attend industry "hosted" classes that expose them to the occupational requirements and the employers expectations of beginner employees.

On October 9, the Highway and Transportation Department invited 23 educators to attend a three-hour session that included lectures, a tour of the Department, and an audio visual presentation.

John Haynie, Assistant Section Head of the Public Transportation Unit, briefed the class on the Department's role as a state agency and explained the salary scale and fringe benefits. The key lecturer of the program, Al Johnson, Assistant Chief Engineer of Planning and Development, was very direct on stressing the importance of students developing good communication skills, comprehension ability, and job interview preparation. He also elaborated on the employee's attitude, company loyalty, and competency in recognizing and solving problems.

A vital part of the program is "work-shadowing". Teachers are assigned to work alongside a regular employee to learn about job skills, attitude and work habits that are outside the school setting. The Department plans to participate in this early next spring.

# A WORD ABOUT S·A·F·E·T·Y

## SIZING UP TRAFFIC

By James Mansfield, Safety Officer

Eggs are sorted according to size so they won't break between the farm and your refrigerator. But if you took a dozen eggs ranging from small to jumbo and packed them into a standard carton made for medium-size eggs, you know some of the eggs would break before you get them home.

That's what happens on streets and highways everyday, when vehicles ranging from motorcycles to semi-trucks share a road designed for averagesized cars.

And the range in vehicle size is broadening. The push for fuel efficiency has led to more compact and sub-compact cars, and to larger trucks and combination trucks.

The car-to-truck ratio has changed dramatically, too. Since 1950, the number of passenger cars has tripled to 122 million, while the number of all kinds of trucks has quadrupled, to 34 million. As the highway becomes more crowded with smaller cars and larger trucks, traffic safety experts predict more serious accidents per vehicle mile in the future.

### Driving Defensively Is The Best Way To Stay Out of Trouble In Today's Traffic Mix

There are ways to protect yourself on the road, no matter what size vehicle you drive. Here are a few of them.

**BE VISIBLE.** Turn on your lights at dusk or in bad weather. Even if you can see without your lights other motorist may be having vision problems. Avoid riding in another driver's blind spots. Remember that when you are following a large truck, surrounding traffic may not see you at all, so be extra careful before moving out of your lane to pass or turn. If your car is disabled, forcing you to drive more slowly than other traffic until you can safely pull over, use your four-way emergency flashers to warn other drivers. And use your lights and flashers any time you make an emergency stop on the shoulder of the road.

**BE PREDICTABLE.** Signal all your turns and lane changes in plenty of time so other drivers won't be taken by surprise. If you find yourself in a turn or exit only lane where you don't want to turn, complete the maneuver or correct your mistake by going around the block or to the next interchange. If traffic is slowed or stopped, don't try to illegally bypass it on the shoulder or crossing a median. It's a real temptation but other drivers won't expect you to come speeding by on the right. When stopping, tap your brake pedal lightly several times to signal your stop to the driver behind you.

**WATCH TRAFFIC AHEAD.** Most fatal accidents that involve more than one vehicle are front or front-angle collision. Watch ahead for a car that may be forced into your lane, one that has its right wheel off the side of the pavement and may swerve sharply into your path, a motorcyclist who may be riding close to the centerline, or a truck making a wide

turn. Keep your eyes moving over traffic and your mind on your driving.

**KEEP YOUR SPEED DOWN AND MAINTAIN A SAFE FOLLOWING DISTANCE.** Not surprisingly, more fatal accidents happen on roads with higher speed limits. Your risk of serious accident increases when you speed, so don't push up your odds by pushing your speed above posted limits. And "speed too fast", including too fast for conditions, is the most commonly cited improper driving factor in all accidents. Safe following distance gives a cushion between your front bumper and the back bumper ahead of you. Use the two second rule: Watch the vehicle ahead pass a marker on the road, such as an overpass shadow or a utility pole. Count "one-thousand and one, one-thousand and two" to measure two seconds. If you reach the marker before you finish counting, you're too close. Drop back and count again. Increase the distance to four seconds in bad weather.

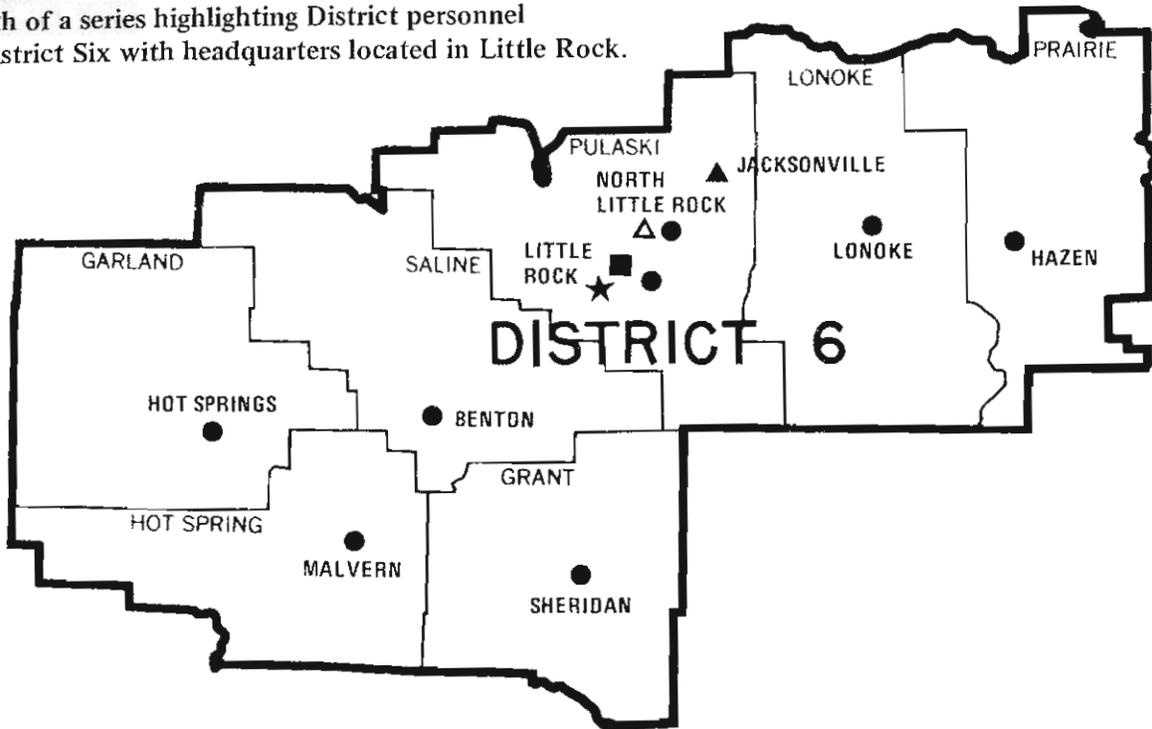
**DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE.** Alcohol is involved in anywhere from one-third to one-half of all fatal crashes. If you are going to a party, use the designated driver system: The person who will drive home agrees not to drink. If you find yourself unable to drive, call a friend, call a cab, or sleep it off on someone's couch. Don't try to sober-up with black coffee or fresh air. Only time makes you capable of driving safely if you have had too much to drink.

**BUCKLE UP.** This simple act reduces your chances of a serious or fatal injury by 50 to 60 percent. Wearing a safety belt means that you have a better chance of not becoming an accident statistic on our crowded highways.

# DISTRICT SIX PHOTO FEATURE

Photos by John Jackson

In this issue of "Arkansas Highways" we are featuring the sixth of a series highlighting District personnel. This is District Six with headquarters located in Little Rock.



District Engineer Ralph Fulton, left, looks over construction plans for the I-630/I-30 Interchange with Resident Engineer David Lambert.



Gary Golden, Senior Mechanic with 3 years service, left, and Bill Pate, Shop Foreman with ten years service.



Angela Hall, standing, Stock Clerk, and Melissa Asbille, Assistant Stock Room Supervisor, check inventory on computer terminal.

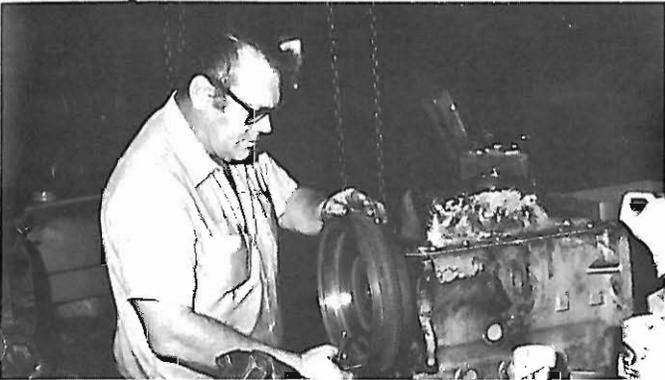


Pat Smyser, Garland County Headquarters Attendant with 6 years service, takes an inventory of rock salt for use this winter.

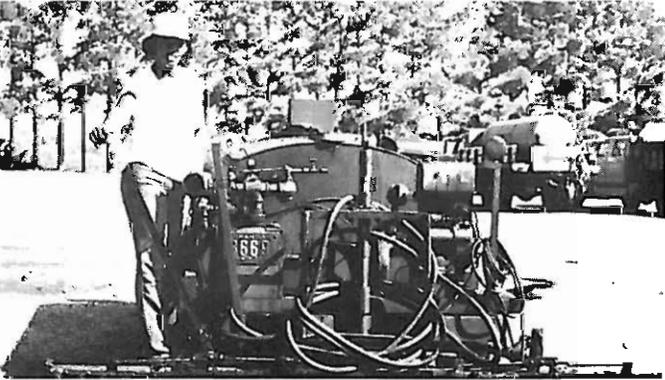
DISTRICT SIX PHOTO FEATURE



James Weston, Roller Operator with 8 years of service, spreads asphalt on I-30 frontage road.



Frank Sutton, Diesel Mechanic with two years of service to AHTD.



Maureen Norris, laborer at the Saline County Area Headquarters checks equipment.



David Lee, Mower Operator and Truck Driver mows right-of-way along Interstate 30.



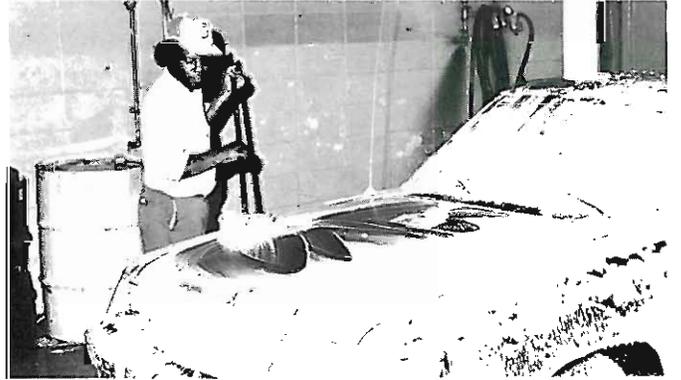
Rosa C. Gray, Rest Area Attendant at Social Hill with 12 years service.



Morris Nutt, Finish Equipment Operator with 10 years service, left, and James Welcher, Hot Spring County Area Foreman with 21 years service.



M.J. Ross, Front End and Brake Mechanic at the District Shop with 6 years of service.



Ben Franklin, Service Station Supervisor with 10 years service washes a department car.

# AHTD RETIREE'S ASSOCIATION

## BECKETT ELECTED STATE PRESIDENT

Leroy Beckett, of Little Rock, was elected president of the AHTD Retiree's Association at the annual statewide meeting, November 1.

Beckett, who retired in October 1974 as head of the Mapping and Graphics Section of the Planning Division, has been serving as Chairman of the Association's Insurance Committee.

Ralph Jones was re-elected vice-president and Sibyl Maddox was re-elected secretary-treasurer.

Out-going president Hurley Perkins was elected chairman of the Executive Committee.

Governor Bill Clinton congratulated Perkins

for his two terms as president and told the Association members he was proud of their many years of service to the State. The Governor was also pleased that the members were still active in the affairs of the Department.

Highway and Transportation Department Director Henry Gray expressed his gratitude to the Association members for their interest in the Department. He told them their continued support for the highway program was essential if the Department is to continue to make progress.



AHTD Retiree Association Officers are from left to right: Hurley Perkins, Chairman of the Executive Committee; Sibyl Maddox, Secretary/Treasurer; Leroy Beckett, President; and Ralph Jones, Vice President.



Out-going president Hurley Perkins is congratulated by Governor Bill Clinton for his service to the Retirees Association.



Governor Bill Clinton, left, and Highway Commissioner Bobby Hopper at the Retirees Association meeting.



Highway and Transportation Department Director Henry Gray addresses members of the Retiree's Association at the Annual Meeting in North Little Rock.

# AHTD LETTERS

July 29, 1984

Mr. Henry Gray  
Director  
Highway and Transportation Department  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Henry,

I just received the Summer 1984 Issue of "Arkansas Highways" and as always I greatly enjoyed it. Please convey my appreciation to Bill Stanton and crew for a job well done.

It's always so good to receive news of old friends and to read about all of the interesting happenings of the AHTD. I especially enjoyed the article on Personnel Changes that took place in March and April. It helped me to remember once again what an outstanding group of people that you have working for you.

Best of luck in the next session of the General Assembly with regard to increased funding.

Sincerely,  
Ed Wueste  
FHWA - Kuwait

\*\*\*\*\*

August 10, 1984

Mr. Dave Harding  
Permit Clerk - District 6  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Harding:

Just a short note of thanks for returning the registration to our automobile you found along Highway 10.

I appreciate you taking the time.

Sincerely,  
Mike Specht  
Little Rock

\*\*\*\*\*

August 15, 1984

Arkansas Highway Department  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for the honesty of three members of your department — men whose names I unfortunately do not know.

On August 8 I left the Roadrunner gas station in Bryant leaving my wallet, containing \$70 in cash, my checkbook and all my credit cards, lying on the top of our pickup truck. The

wallet fell off the roof of the truck and was found along the side of I-30 by your crew. I was told that they were returning from the asphalt plant in Benton when they spotted it.

The men took the wallet to the facility at Hwy. 65 and Dixon Road where the supervisor very kindly tried to reach me at home and being unable to reach me he called my bank.

Of course I was pleased to have the cash back, but even more happy to recover my checkbook and credit cards, license, registration, etc.

If you can identify that honest crew I would certainly appreciate it if you would extend to them my deepest thanks and appreciation.

Yours truly,  
Mrs. Nancy Wilson  
Benton, Arkansas

Editor's Note: The men that found the wallet were T. Brown, S. Austin and M. Sullivan of the South Pulaski Crew in District Six.

\*\*\*\*\*

August 12, 1984

Arkansas Highway Department  
Little Rock, Arkansas

It is easy to write complaining letters. Complimentary letters are much harder and, unfortunately, many times are never written.

On June 26, 1984, in your beautiful state near Brinkley on Interstate 40, we had a blowout. I am use to taking care of my own problems, so, when a friendly motorist in a pickup stopped and asked if I needed help, and I said "No, thanks." As it happened I very much needed help, since I had overlooked the first rule in such a case, i.e., put chocks in front and behind another wheel! So the car rolled off the jack.

My friendly motorist got his jack, got the car back up, and did most, if not all of the work to get me back on the road. Not only that, but he refused to take any pay for his work.

It was only later that I learned that he was a supervisor to a grass cutting crew, so I want to write and compliment you on having such good, conscientious employees. Texans would call him a "good ole boy" in the best sense of the phrase.

Of course, he used 20 or 25 minutes of the State's time, but he fostered much more than that in good public relations for the State of Arkansas, so I hope you will forgive him and me for utilizing the State's time.

Please make sure to let Mr. Rodney Hicks know that, although long delayed, I did write to thank him for his kind assistance.

Very truly,  
Virgil B. Humphreys  
Austin, Texas

\*\*\*\*\*

October 24, 1984

Mr. Cal Porterfield, Section Head  
AHTD Radio Communications  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Porterfield:

We are writing this letter in reference to the outstanding help from Operator Art Hawkins on October 18, 1984, concerning an accident on U.S. Highway 65, south of Dumas, in the early morning hours.

It is very gratifying to know we have such a well staffed communication support team to back us up while on duty.

We have both had previous police experience and feel that the radio system we now have will match any police department's in the State.

Again, let us say that Operator Hawkins acted in a professional manner, second to none, and we appreciate his effort and help.

Yours truly,  
Pfc. George R. Franks, Jr.  
Ptl. Ross W. Martin  
Arkansas Highway Police  
Unit 181, Dumas, Arkansas

\*\*\*\*\*

October 10, 1984

Mr. Bill Stanton  
Editor, Arkansas Highways Magazine

Dear Bill:

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to you and the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department because I am receiving regularly, every season, the magnificent magazine, "Arkansas Highways".

Through that magazine, I know much about the people of the AHTD, such as, members of the Arkansas State Highway Commission, engineers, and people of the various careers. I am an engineer of the Departamento de Estradas de Rodaglor do Estado de Sao Paulo, Brazil. (DER-SP). I was formerly an engineer of highway design. Now my job is related with materials, as an engineer of the Central Laboratory of the DER-SP, I deal with soil and bituminous materials and paint analysis.

What can I say about the magazine? It's wonderful! Sections of the magazine like, "Around the Department", and "AHTD Service Awards," are magnificent. Other sections of the magazine as: "Dedications", "Public Hearings", and "Letters" give important news about the Department.

Colored photographs inside and on the cover are magnificent. They show the various season variations (colors) and this is an uncommon scene for me.

All the sections of the magazine I read attentively. I

constantly exhibit the magazine to other people of the DER-SP.

Please accept my thanks for your courtesy. If ever I can be of any assistance to you, don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,  
Jose' Landi  
DER-SP  
Sao Paulo, Brazil

\*\*\*\*\*

August 15, 1984

Mr. M.S. Smith, III  
District 2 Engineer  
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Dear Sam:

I wanted to drop you a note to tell you how much I appreciate the efforts that your office has exhibited on behalf of the citizens of Arkansas County, and Stuttgart in particular, in connection with the Main Street resurfacing job as well as other things the Highway Department has done for the city. I have heard nothing but praise from the citizens of Stuttgart wish respect to the speed, efficiency, and courtesy with which your department has functioned. You have made many favorable public relations points for the Highway Department in the eyes of the citizenry of Stuttgart.

Again, with my sincere appreciation for a job well done, I remain

Very truly yours,  
Mike Beebe  
Senator, 29th District  
Searcy, Arkansas

\*\*\*\*\*

August 3, 1984

Mr. Sam Smith  
District 2 Engineer

Dear Mr. Smith:

It is with deep appreciation that I write thanking you for the great paving job that was recently done in the City of Stuttgart by the State Highway Department.

The striping that is on our Main Street (Highway 79B) has increased the traffic flow tremendously and is especially helpful in aiding emergency vehicles through the city.

Again, let me take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the citizens of Stuttgart for a job well done.

Sincerely,  
H.E. "Pete" Raines  
Mayor  
City of Stuttgart

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Again, let me take this opportunity to thank you on behalf of the citizens of Stuttgart for a job well done.

Sincerely,  
H.E. "Pete" Raines  
Mayor  
City of Stuttgart

# AHTD SERVICE AWARDS

## SEPTEMBER 1984

### 35 Years

Hubert C. Martin . . . . . District 5

### 30 Years

William C. Dillon, Jr. . . . . E&P  
Patsy J. Downing . . . . . E&P

### 25 Years

Huston A. Alford . . . . . Traffic  
Coy Campbell, Jr. . . . . District 7  
Monte E. Deakins . . . . . District 6  
Paul J. Elcan . . . . . Planning  
James M. Garrett . . . . . Prog. & Confs.  
Thomas L. Lindsey . . . . . District 7  
Richard A. Williams . . . . . Traffic

### 20 Years

Allan L. Holmes . . . . . District 4  
Clara W. Jones . . . . . District 5  
Ronald A. Jones . . . . . District 9  
Gary J. Lewis . . . . . Construction  
Donald R. Phillips . . . . . District 10  
Roy D. Pitts . . . . . District 5  
James F. Taylor . . . . . Radio  
Terrell Watts . . . . . M&R

### 15 Years

Travis M. Boyd . . . . . AHP  
Earl Bragg . . . . . District 10  
James P. Branscum . . . . . District 5  
Elmer C. Crumley . . . . . District 9  
Terry C. Edwards . . . . . District 2  
James P. Griffis . . . . . District 7  
Leland H. Halcomb . . . . . District 8  
Wayne S. Harper . . . . . Planning  
Jimmy H. Hill . . . . . District 8  
Vinnie M. Holt . . . . . District 3  
Norma J. McKinney . . . . . District 5  
Burl D. Robertson . . . . . District 2  
Brad J. Sneed . . . . . District 5  
Tom E. Vines, Jr. . . . . District 5  
Walter E. White . . . . . Planning

### 10 Years

Herman J. Bentz . . . . . District 6  
Tollie C. Berry . . . . . District 10  
Troy E. Brown . . . . . District 8  
Harold O. Carr . . . . . District 5  
George K. Coffman . . . . . AHP  
Charles C. Core . . . . . District 4  
Mary E. Gibson . . . . . ROW  
Kennie S. Gifford . . . . . Construction  
Olen E. Gunter . . . . . District 6  
Denver A. Hardman . . . . . District 6  
Dennis L. Herren . . . . . District 10  
Kenneth M. Hiley . . . . . ROW  
Ray S. Hughes, Jr. . . . . District 7  
Joe B. Hurst . . . . . District 8  
Boyce E. Martin . . . . . AHP  
Charles May . . . . . District 8  
James W. McLeod . . . . . State Aid  
Bruce G. Murph, Jr. . . . . District 7  
Ernest E. Potter . . . . . E&P  
Havis L. Rackley . . . . . District 8  
Charles R. Rainey . . . . . State Aid  
London H. Sabb . . . . . ROW  
William E. Shipp . . . . . District 8  
Ronald G. Stanfill . . . . . District 9  
Jimmy C. Stinson . . . . . District 4  
Jerry W. Watson . . . . . District 3  
Marion G. Williams . . . . . Planning

### 5 Years

Larry D. Alexander . . . . . District 2  
Melissa A. Asbille . . . . . District 6  
Jerry R. Biffle . . . . . District 8  
Johnnie L. Bolden . . . . . District 1  
John S. Burch . . . . . District 8  
Eddy K. Bush . . . . . AHP  
James O. Chronister, Jr. . . . . District 8  
Don D. Clark . . . . . District 6  
Thomas M. Collins . . . . . District 6  
Edward L. Condrey . . . . . Surveys  
Otis Cunningham . . . . . District 2  
Gearld W. Cupler . . . . . District 5  
Thomas S. Doolin . . . . . District 6  
Roland G. Eaton . . . . . District 10  
Thomas J. Fife . . . . . District 5  
Vernon A. Fisher . . . . . District 2  
Charles A. Freeman . . . . . District 8  
Larry G. Hall . . . . . District 1  
Steve A. Harris . . . . . M&R  
Mark E. Holloman . . . . . E&P  
Larry A. Johnson . . . . . District 2  
Alva C. Jordan . . . . . District 9  
William L. Kerst . . . . . District 3  
Charles E. Madden . . . . . District 3  
Ruel Mayo . . . . . District 1  
John A. Moriarty . . . . . District 10  
Danny J. Morran . . . . . District 4  
Terry D. Mullins . . . . . District 2  
Dwight L. Owen . . . . . District 7  
Larry R. Payne . . . . . Construction  
Rickey A. Pierce . . . . . District 1  
James B. Plunket . . . . . Roadway Design  
Richard A. Ranson . . . . . District 6  
Jean Scarlett . . . . . Personnel  
Anthony Scott . . . . . District 1  
Statin M. Shockley . . . . . District 10  
Phillip L. Stroud . . . . . District 8  
Vivian S. Taff . . . . . District 4  
Charles Tittle . . . . . District 1  
George H. Tyson . . . . . District 5  
Ray E. Vincent . . . . . District 2  
Wendy K. Welch . . . . . Environmental

## OCTOBER 1984

### 25 Years

Dale F. Loe . . . . . Bridge Design  
Joe G. Watkins . . . . . District 2

### 20 Years

Billy Allred . . . . . District 5  
Teddy M. Carr . . . . . District 2  
Howard E. Harper . . . . . District 9  
Joe P. Yocham . . . . . District 9

### 15 Years

Charles L. Barrett . . . . . District 10  
John E. Beasley . . . . . District 7  
George E. Bounds, Jr. . . . . District 7  
David W. Dodson . . . . . District 9  
Emma L. Galyean . . . . . Personnel  
Lois G. McCormick . . . . . District 1  
Louis J. Quarta, III . . . . . Computer Services  
Charles E. Sherwood . . . . . Bridge Design  
Percy A. Walker . . . . . District 7  
Thomas R. Walter . . . . . AHP

### 10 Years

Barney G. Berry . . . . . District 8  
Carolyn J. Bobo . . . . . Computer Services  
Harold C. Brezler . . . . . District 5  
Reuben C. Carter . . . . . District 6

James C. Chalk . . . . . District 2  
Harold D. Culver . . . . . District 4  
Freddie G. Evans . . . . . District 6  
William A. Keeling . . . . . District 9  
William E. Kendall . . . . . District 2  
Russell D. Overall . . . . . District 9  
Gerald E. Stockton . . . . . District 4  
Michael J. Tackett . . . . . State Aid  
Billy J. Walker . . . . . District 5  
Eldon G. Watson . . . . . District 9

### 5 Years

Sheila H. Baugh . . . . . Public Transportation  
Theodore Bradford . . . . . District 2  
Joel D. Clark . . . . . ROW  
John C. Haynie . . . . . Public Transportation  
Dwight G. Hays . . . . . District 8  
George B. Hicks, Jr. . . . . District 9  
Verna G. Higgins . . . . . Prog. & Confs.  
Charles A. Hooper . . . . . District 10  
Vella Jeffrey . . . . . District 1  
John P. Jones . . . . . District 1  
David L. Mayberry . . . . . Maintenance  
Gary W. Neely . . . . . District 6  
Melanie P. Owen . . . . . District 2  
Garry L. Plunk . . . . . District 3  
Karen A. Rankin . . . . . E&P  
Jerry D. Smith . . . . . District 6  
Bobby G. Tubbs . . . . . M&R  
Colleen E. Vines . . . . . AHP  
Mark W. Voyles . . . . . District 6  
Ellie L. Watson . . . . . M&R

## NOVEMBER 1984

### 30 Years

James C. Tritch . . . . . District 10

### 25 Years

Charles L. Boyd . . . . . District 8  
Paul A. Clem . . . . . District 1  
Carolyn J. Milner . . . . . District 7  
Charles E. Venable . . . . . Asst. Chief Engineer

### 20 Years

Frank W. Oliver . . . . . District 5

### 15 Years

George L. Lindsey . . . . . District 7  
Otis D. Mason . . . . . District 10  
Donald W. Westbrook . . . . . District 3  
Carl White . . . . . District 10  
James L. Wilson . . . . . District 3

### 10 Years

Robert E. Barnett . . . . . Surveys  
Danny C. Cummings . . . . . District 3  
Thomas J. Greenway . . . . . M&R  
Adam Harrison . . . . . District 2  
Donald R. Lee . . . . . District 9  
John McLaughlin . . . . . District 4  
Billy J. Reynolds . . . . . District 2  
Raymond J. Woodruff . . . . . District 1

### 5 Years

Perry L. Bledsoe . . . . . District 2  
Coy G. Clayborn . . . . . District 3  
Rayburn L. Farrish . . . . . Maintenance  
Ray D. Hook . . . . . District 9  
Charles D. Johnson . . . . . Legal  
Lovis H. Johnson . . . . . Permits  
Henry E. Pruitt . . . . . Traffic  
Robert C. Shelton . . . . . M&R

# RETIREMENTS

## AUGUST 1984

W.C. Beck . . . . . District 3  
 Elbert D. Benson . . . . . District 7  
 Ernest M. Birmingham . . . . . District 5  
 Van Bratton, Jr. . . . . District 2  
 Hubert E. Drummond . . . . . District 7  
 Eulas Ray Ervin . . . . . District 10  
 Alfred J. Harms . . . . . District 8  
 Samuel J. Huckabee . . . . . District 3  
 A.D. Huffine . . . . . District 10  
 Fred B. McCain . . . . . District 8  
 Hallet J. Wilson . . . . . District 9

## SEPTEMBER 1984

Willie B. Cooper . . . . . District 7  
 Robert G. Joshlin . . . . . District 1  
 Alvin Justice . . . . . District 5  
 Harlie D. McCutcheon . . . . . District 9  
 R.B. Runions . . . . . Radio  
 Joseph W. Briscoe . . . . . Planning

## OCTOBER 1984

Shirley A. Morton . . . . . District 9  
 Elmer A. Lovell . . . . . District 5  
 Jerry C. Edwards . . . . . District 2  
 Hubert C. Martin . . . . . District 5  
 Robert A. Skinner . . . . . District 3  
 Jackson H. Barton . . . . . District 5

## AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

### CONSTRUCTION

Norman Pumphrey, Construction Engineer, proudly announced that his wife, Kitty, has received her Ph.D. from the University of Missouri at Columbia and is now teaching accounting at UALR. Our congratulations to both of you!

Also congratulations to Peggy Martin who received the Meyer Scholarship from the Mabelvale B&PW Club and is enrolled at UALR majoring in computer science.

Ralph Hall and several AHTD friends went hunting at Pogosa Springs, Colorado. They packed their supplies on mules and hiked to the camp site located at timber line enjoying the beautiful scenery on the way. Jack Brisco killed a grouse with bow and arrow that they feasted on one night and Ralph shot a 5 by 4-point deer. They are already making plans for a return trip next year.



No. 8, Ralph Hall, Joe Barnett and Jessie

Elaine Smart and husband, Dudley, really enjoyed themselves on their recent vacation. They flew to Rome and then took a train trip to Florence for more sight seeing.

Mr. Glenn Cotham, a retired resident engineer, died on August 22, 1984, in North Holly-

wood, California. Mr. Cotham was born in Monticello on August 24, 1900. He was first employed by the AHTD on February 1, 1927 and worked for 40 years before retiring in 1967. He was a resident engineer for a major portion of the Interstate System through Little Rock and North Little Rock. Glenn and his wife, Daisy Lee, moved to California in 1978. He is survived by his wife and one son, Glenn Carroll of North Hollywood.

### COMPUTER SERVICES

In August several of Computer Services' employees received recognition for their years of service with the Department. They were Gary French and Guy Sims, 15 years; and S.A. DeLeon, 10 years. They were presented a Certificate of Service and pin by Computer Services Chief, Jerry Stussy.



Sims, DeLeon, and French

Bill Durham attended the annual HEEP meeting in October which was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota this year.

Mike Shaw and Judy Drake are having a good response to the class they are teaching on "Computer Awareness" in the Inter-Agency Training Program.

### INTERNAL AUDIT

We would like to welcome Robert Lee Jones who was employed as Internal Auditor on August 2. He is a 1967 graduate of A.M.&N. College, presently the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. His past employer was the Arkansas State Education Department, where he worked as an Accountant in the Federal Programs Division for 4½ years. He will have five years of service with the State in November. Robert is single and his hobbies include chess and dancing.



Robert Jones

### MAIL & SUPPLIES

Congratulations to Randy Womack, our stock clerk, who is shown receiving his 5 year Certificate of Service from Section Head Retha Griffin.

We miss Gary Curtis, who left the Department for other employment but we welcome our new employee Mike Neal. Mike is married and has two children.



Randy Womack and Retha Griffin

## MAINTENANCE

It finally happened! On September 2 Debbie and Doyle Meyer became the proud parents of a baby boy, Cullan James, who weighed 7 pounds and 7 ounces. Congratulations to Debbie and Doyle. We had a shower for Debbie in the Maintenance Office in July where Debbie received lots of great gifts from the girls around the Department.

Our boss, Calvin Peavy, had surgery in August. He was back at his desk the next week and we're were all gald to have him back.

In August, John Hall was asked, by FHWA, to attend the "Bridge Maintenance Training Course" in Maryland. John was on the panel for an evaluation of the course contents. There were five members on the panel, three from FHWA and two Bridge Maintenance Engineers. We are all proud of John for being selected to serve on this panel. John's wife, Flo, accompanied him on the trip and they did some "sight seeing" on the way back to Arkansas.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Jim Gee's mother recently. Jim is our Assistant Maintenance Engineer.

## MATERIALS & RESEARCH

Congratulations to Misti Michelle Watts, age 2, daughter of Terrell and Louise Watts for receiving a third place ribbon and certificate for beauty in her age class in the beauty pageant sponsored by the Veterans Organization. Also in the royalty she was crowned Princess for her age class and received a trophy. Good job Misti!



Misti Michelfe Watts

A special welcome is in order to Jim Martens who transferred from the North Little Rock Resident Engineers Office. He is presently working in the Chemistry Lab.

Congratulations to the following for receiving service pins and certificates, Bill Langston, 30 years; Terrell Watts, 20 years; and Keith Powell and Steve Harris, 5 years.

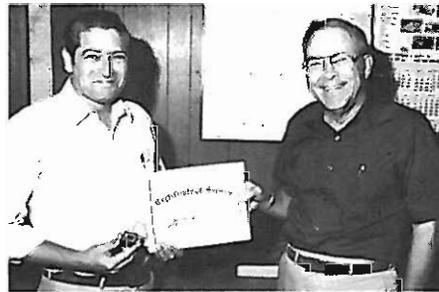
Two personnel changes have occurred recently; Keith Powell has moved from the Geotechnical Soils Lab to the Design Lab and Cathy Haley has transferred from the front office to the Geotechnical Soils Lab.

Our world-wide travelers for this edition are Charles Means and Jake Clements who represented the M&R Division at the Southeastern Geotechnical Conference in Winter Park, Fla. the first week in October.

## PERMITS

Congratulations to Joe Wheat, who was presented a 5 year Certificate of Service from Section Head V.W. Dumas.

Pat and Joe Wheat also have a new grandson. William Edward Eaves III (Billy) was born to daughter Edie on September 19 weighing 6 pounds.



Joe Wheat and V.W. Dumas



William Edward Eaves, III

Alma and Tounz Stephens are also proud grandparents. Daniel Cole Daves, who is their first grandchild, was born September 28 and weighed 10 pounds and 4 ounces. His parents are Carol and Velton Daves of Conway.

Jeanie and Bob Kittler's granddaughter, Amy Garrett, was selected the 1984 Perry County Junior Miss. Amy, age 9, is the daughter of Diane and Chester Daniel of Perryville.

Joe Wheat's granddaughter, Misty Dawn Stevenson, won Miss Photogenic in the Arkansas Sweetheart Pageant and was also first runner-

up. Misty, who is 16 months old, is the daughter of Laura Jo and Ricky Stevenson.

Angela Blackwell spent a week in San Francisco where she visited with her brother, Ben, and had a great time.



Amy Garrett, Perry County Junior Miss



Misty Dawn Stevenson

## PERSONNEL

On October 7 at 6:40 p.m. the finest and most beautiful baby was born. Just ask "Grandma Emma" Galyean, she will tell (and tell and tell) you all about him. Emma's son, Greg, and wife, Vicki, are the proud parents of Jeremy Anthony Galyean. If you are in the Planning Division, you can also ask "Aunt Becky" Gathright about the 7 pound, 2 ounce bundle of joy. Seems as though Grandma is having a devil of a time keeping Grandpa Clifton home now. A grandbaby as fine as that one needs to be checked on two or three times a day.

The Personnel Office would like to extend a warm welcome to Malinda "Lindy" Hobson. She transferred to Personnel from the Right of Way Division. Lindy is single, very attractive and has a delightful personality. She is originally from Camden and has lived in Little Rock for one year. Her hobbies are skiing and cross stitching.

The staff of the Personnel Office would also life to welcome the 1984-85 COE students. These young ladies were selected on their personality and outstanding scholastic achievements. They are Lezley Bearden of McClellan, Teresa Worstell of Mills High and Laura Beth Major from Hall High School. No doubt they will be an asset to every office they work in.

We wish Kay Cornish, Assistant Personnel Officer, a speedy recovery from her surgery and look forward to her return to the office. Kay will finally have a chance to peacefully enjoy the beautiful rustic home she and Bobby purchased in Pine Bluff.

In September, Debbie Caster drove with her Mother to Ventura, California to attend a family reunion. She had time to perk up Los Angeles and the Pacific beach coast while she was there.

## PLANNING

We extend our sympathy and thoughts to Pat and Sharon Sullivan on the death of their son, Todd.

Technical Services seems to be having a rash of broken arms among the sons of employees. Hilda Harris' son, Richie, and Paul Elcan's son, Michael, both are sporting new casts. In fact, Paul's son had just gotten the cast off his other arm when he broke this one.

We wish Tonya Musial good luck on her move to the third floor in Computer Services. We will miss you Tonya and don't forget us!

Ursula Schlesier is off traveling again - this time to South Carolina to visit her daughter, Barbara, who is serving her residency in Psychology at Charleston.

Debbie Barclay is trying a new environment. She has enrolled in scuba diving at UARL this semester. That's pretty brave for someone who, before the class, only put her face in water if she could hold her nose! Actually, she seems to be doing well since she has also enrolled in a swimming class and can now swim continuously for hours at a time. Her incentive is a scuba trip to Cozumel next summer.

Las Vegas will never be the same. Polly and Robert Cloud set the town on fire, well, at least Polly did! Robert had fun watching Polly play the slots because the whole town knew when she won. Las Vegas was the last stop on their tour. Pike's Peak was another highlight of the trip and made Polly appreciate our highways. The road to the top of Pike's Peak is dirt and does not have guard rails. At the Royal Gorge, Robert could not convince Polly to ride the cable car across the gorge. They did ride the train but only because it stayed on the ground. Polly is already planning her Christmas present to herself - another trip to Vegas.

Congratulations to Jackie and Joe Weir on the arrival of their new daughter, Ali Nichole, born on September 15. Little Ali only weighed 5 pounds and 1 ounce. Jackie is an employee of the Mapping and Graphics Section.



Ali Nichole Weir

Hold on to your hats! The rumor doesn't seem to be rumor anymore because the invitations have been mailed! On October 27, Jackie Maxwell became Mrs. Grant Greer. All of us in Technical Services wish Jackie and Grant a long and happy life together.

Our Safety Section won't be the same. On October 31, Charles L. McGrew, Safety Officer, was honored with a retirement party. Charlie has been with the Department for seven years. We send Charlie and his wife, Marilyn, our best wishes. Don't forget us Charlie and come back to visit often.

Congratulations to Van and Leslie Hale. They are expecting their second child in March. The Hales have one daughter, Erica, age 19 months.

Paul and Janet Simms left September 16 for a 3-week trip to Europe. They flew first to England for a week of sightseeing on their own before flying to Amsterdam to join a tour of seven European countries. Their tour group visited Munich (during Oktoberfest), Venice, Rome, Geneva, Paris and London. According to Paul, they are ready to go back to Austria and southern Germany.

Glenda McNulty and Kerry Johnson were married on August 25 in Asbury Methodist Church in Little Rock. Kerry is the son of Sunny and Ed Johnson, State Rail Coordinator. The couple is at home in Little Rock following a wedding trip to Padre Island.



Mr. & Mrs. Kerry Johnson

## PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

The Public Transportation Unit would like to welcome John Haynie as our new Assistant Section Head. John came to our Unit from Finance and Economics. He has been with the AHTD for five years.

Jim Head has gained a new son-in-law. Jim's daughter, Dana, married Kevin Thompson of Fayetteville in September. Our congratulations to Dana and Kevin! We wish her the best of everything.

Brenda Kirkpatrick is driving around in a new car, or at least new to her. She is the proud owner of a 1981 - 280ZX.

Last, but certainly not least, if anyone is planning a visit to the Materials Building to see us, we are not there. The Public Transportation

Unit is now located in the Otter Creek Park Executive Services Building at the Mabelvale West Interchange. Even though we have experienced some inconveniences, like several days without phones, everyone seems to be enjoying the change of scenery.

## RADIO

A reception was held in October in honor of three of our employees and we extend a hearty congratulations to each of them.

R.B. Runions retired after 19 years of loyal service in the Radio Section. R.B. was one of our more versatile and valuable employees. He was an excellent tower climber and performed electrical, mechanical, and carpentry duties when necessary. Fellow employees gave him a gift certificate. R.B.'s wife, Pawnee, two sons, Terry and Tony and daughter-in-law, Alana, were his special guests. We miss him very much and wish the very best for him and his family in retirement. Come back and visit us please!



Cal Porterfield and R.B. Runions



Cal Porterfield and Jim Taylor



Cal Porterfield and Gordon Foddrill

Jim Taylor, Communications Supervisor, was presented his 20-year service certificate and pin by Cal Porterfield. Jim's wife, Andrea, and mother-in-law, Mrs. Cagle, were his guests.

Gordon Foddrill, Communications Maintenance Specialist, was presented his 5 year service certificate and pin by Cal Porterfield.

## REPRODUCTION

Reproduction employees helped our boss, Al Dunn, celebrate the BIG "6 - 0" Birthday with a delicious potluck dinner.



Al Dunn

Congratulations to Ava and David Harding who are the proud grandparents of a third grandson, Nicholas Bradley, born August 21. Nicholas is the son of Donna and Robert Williams of Niceville, Florida. Ava and David spent their vacation in Florida visiting with their new grandson and his family. They were joined there by daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Ron Spielman, who live in Sheridan, Wyoming.



Nicholas Bradley Williams

Congratulations to Pete Escarre who will become a grandfather for the third time in April.

Tommy Daniel spent his two weeks vacation in New York City visiting an aunt and seeing the sights. Congratulations to Tommy who entered the Sherwood Run and won 3rd place in the 39-47 age division. Not bad, considering 185 participants competed in this run. Tommy also entered a photo contest sponsored by the Little Rock Air Force Base. He won 2nd place in the "Creative Photography" category and 2nd place in the "Scenes and Nature" category. These winners were sent forward to MAC in St. Louis, which is the second stage of the contest, and covers about 5 states. If his photos place there, they go to the third stage which covers all states. Good luck Tommy! Pictured is his winner called "Ducks" which he entered in the "Scenes and Nature" category.



"Ducks"  
by Tommy Daniel

Debra Allen and family spent their vacation sight seeing in Gatlinburg, Tennessee and the Great Smoky Mountains.

Marty Oliver and family spent their vacation camping, swimming, and water skiing at Lake DeGray. Pictured is a view of the Arkansas River, as seen from Oklahoma, taken by Marty on a recent trip to Wichita, Kansas.



We welcome DeSha McEntire who is helping out in our Microfilm Section. Her hobbies are camping, swimming, hiking and cooking. She recently moved to the Galleria Apartments.

## RIGHT-OF-WAY

The Right-of-Way Division had a potluck on October 12 in honor of eight employees who received Certificates of Service. Those receiving certificates for 15 years were Don Galloway, Property Manager; Charles Smothers, Realty Appraiser; and Arthur Watt, Assistant Chief of the Right of Way Division. Ten year certificates were presented to Mary Gibson, Utilities Section Secretary; Mike Hiley, Relocation Coordinator; and London Sabb, Plans Designer. Five year awards were presented to Joel Clark, Drafter; and Tim Robertson, Advance Drafter.

Congratulations to all of these employees and we wish them many more years of happy employment.

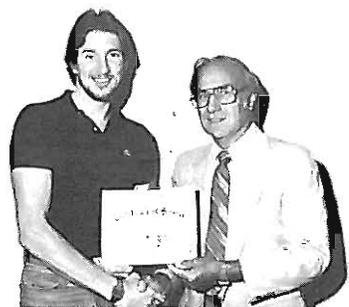
## STATE AID

Congratulations to Jim McLeod upon receiving his 10 year service award from AHTD in September. Prior to his employment with the Department Jim served in the U.S. Army travelling to 14 different nations. During his service to our Country Jim received the Bronze Star, two Army Commendations, the Vietnam Campaign and Service ribbons, three Presidential Unit Citations, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Army Civil Action, Civil Service, Army Reserve Merit and National Defense. Jim continues to receive daily awards or rewards helping his wife Anita, raise their two lovely children, Michael, 9 months, and Elizabeth, age 3.



Jim McLeod and John Kizer

Congratulations to Rick Rainey upon receiving his 10 year service award in September. Rick has had one leave of absence from the Department in which he worked for Harner-Waldorff, but returned to the AHTD. Rick likes to run and backpack. Rick is married to "Ba-Bara" and they have one child, Robin, age 7, and a Labrador Retriever named Fannie.



Rick Rainey and John Kizer

Three days before his birthday on September 24, John Kizer realized what could be considered a lifelong ambition by receiving his Private Pilot's license from the FAA. John and his daughter, Lana, started taking lessons in 1983. She is currently working toward her license. To receive a Private Pilot's license, the applicant must pass rigid physical, oral, written and flight tests as well as accumulate specific hours of dual and solo flight training. John says he passed all the tests with flying colors. Boss, we are proud of you!

## TRAFFIC

A warm welcome to Mark Jones, Randy Rowland and Casandra Simpson, our new employees. Casandra is a newlywed, just getting married on August 11 to Ricky N. Simpson. Tony Jones was promoted from Sign Crew Foreman to Traffic Designer. Congratulations Tony!



Mr. & Mrs. Ricky N. Simpson

Maurice Guest, Jr., son of Brenda Guest, received the "Super Student" award for being at the top of his Daycare Class.



Maurice Guest Jr.

Our congratulations to Richard Lynn Andrews and Donetta Renee Williams, daughter of

Richard "Sandy" Williams, who were married August 18 at Victory Baptist Church in Sherwood by Brother Bobby Clark.

Congratulations to Larry Watson and Loretta Morrison who were married on September 22 in Melbourne.

Belated congratulations to Jamie Martin and Merri Ellen Jones who were married in May at Lebanon Baptist Church in Nelsonville.

Lee Gibbons, Section Head of Traffic Services, presented Huston Alford and Richard "Sandy" Williams with 25 year service awards in September. Congratulations Huston and Sandy!

John Santoro, Bert Porterfield, Lee Gibbons and Lee's grandson, Josh, took a trip to Florida. Lee's route back took him and Josh to New Orleans and the World's Fair.

Goodbye and best wishes to Willie Gilcrease, Ronita Hamilton and Laura Lee who left our Division.

## DISTRICT ONE

September 26 was party day for two of our retiring employees. Oliver Akins, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, was honored that morning with cake and punch. Oliver, who retired after 11 years of service, was presented a watch and a pair of masonic cuff links by District One employees. His wife and two of his daughters attended the party, and it sounds like his wife is going to keep him busy for quite a while with jobs around the house. We wish Oliver many happy years of retirement and hope he will come back and see us when he gets caught up on his work.



Oliver Akins

Another party was held in the afternoon for R.G. Joshlin, Senior Inspector, from the West Helena Resident Engineer's office. Glenn's party was held at the Flames Restaurant in Brinkley where cake and coffee were served in his honor, and he was given a watch by his fellow employees. Glenn is retiring with 35 years of service, and after working that many years, we hope his retirement will be a happy one.

## DISTRICT TWO

The latest winners of the "Crew of the Month" competition in District Two were for July: Foreman Ricky Neal and the Cleveland County Crew; for August: Foreman Scarler Lyons and the Arkansas County Crew and again for September was Ricky Neal's crew at Rison. It is always a big achievement to be the "top" crew in the District.



Sam Smith and Ricky Neal



Sam Smith and Scarler Lyons

It is a pleasure to announce the wedding of Constance Alecia Carter and Russell David Alexander on August 11. Connie is the daughter of our District Permit Officer Bettye Carter. Connie is employed by Trotter Ford and Russell by Appliance Parts Company in Pine Bluff. The couple is residing on Providence Road in the Sulphur Springs area of Pine Bluff. Congratulations to the new couple.



Connie Carter Alexander

We sadly regret the loss of three of our retirees recently. Ben Walker and Leroy Ashcraft worked in the maintenance crew at Rison in Cleveland County and James E. "Red" Goins retired as the Equipment Supervisor in District Two. We will miss the former em-

ployees and would like to express our sympathy to their families.

Congratulations to Lisa and Dink Lybrand on the birth of their first child, a daughter, and to Calvin and Patsy Rawls on the birth of their first granddaughter.

Several employees in Pine Bluff responded to the urgent need for blood by donating to the Red Cross Bloodmobile. Special recognition goes to Delly Slater, Bill Johns, Debbie Pruitt, Gary Bunting, Jason Harrison, Mark Evans, Jan Wilson, Stefanie Hawkins, Jim Pound, Earl Raines, Burl Robertson, Sam Harris, Bettye Carter and Jim Allbritton. We appreciate these people.

Several employees are enjoying fall vacations. Gene Woodfield and wife, Jerri, spent a week in Hot Springs and Earl Raines and family toured North Arkansas.

Reginald "Reg" Conway, who works for the Sealing Crew in Drew County, grew this monster sweet potato. It weighed a whopping 8 pounds and 1/4 ounce.



Reginald Conway

Mr. and Mrs. Monroe House recently celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on July 20. Mr. House is retired from the AHTD. Congratulations to Lillie and Monroe.



Mr. & Mrs. Monroe House

50 Years Ago

Today

The following service awards were presented in District Two. They were for 25 years: Bill Johns, Jefferson County Area Foreman; Ted Carr, Assistant Resident Engineer at McGee; and J.E. Goggans, Single Axle Truck Driver in Cleveland County. Receiving a service award for 20 years was Leon Crouch, Station Attendant at the Ashley Headquarters in Hamburg. Receiving 10 year awards were: James C. Chalk, Drew County; William E. Kendall, Jefferson County; R.L. Wilson, Monticello and receiving 5 year awards were Theodore Bradford, Arkan-

sas County; Melanie P. Owen, District 2 Office; and E.L. Lybrand, Jefferson County Bridge Crew.



Sam Smith and Bill Johns

### DISTRICT THREE

Congratulations to the following on their years of service with the Department. Vinie Holt, 15 years; Jerry Watson, 10 years; and Charles Madden, W.L. Kerst and G.L. Plunk for 5 years.

Pictured are Michael and David White, sons of Earl Gene White, Crew Leader in Pencil Bluff. Michael and David are shown with their trophies they won at Cub Camp Basketball Camp. Michael, age 9, was selected Camper of the Week and was second in Hot Shot Basketball. David, age 10, was Free Throw Champion.



Michael and David White

Robert Skinner, recently retired Bridge Job Superintendent, was honored recently with a fish fry at Red River and was presented a metal detector by his crew. Congratulations on your retirement and we all wish you much happiness.



Robert Skinner

Gary and Becky Barham are the proud parents of their first child, a daughter, Crystal Jo, born October 6 weighing 6 pounds and 6 ounces. Gary is a Districtwide Motor Patrol Operator.

Congratulations to Emmett and Gail Barrett on the new addition to their family. Crystal June was born May 7 and weighed 9 pounds and 9 ounces. They also have a daughter, Stephanie, age 2 1/2, who loves to help Mom take care of her little sister. Emmett is a Senior Inspector at the Texarkana Resident Engineer's office.



Crystal June Barrett

### DISTRICT FOUR

Congratulations to our service award recipients. They are Tommy Trotter, Parts Runner, 15 years and David Bramlett, Mechanic, 10 years. They are shown receiving their certificates from Joe Newell, Equipment Supervisor. Kenneth Trotter, Finish Carpenter in the Districtwide Bridge Crew, received his 15 years award. Thanks guys for your dedicated service.

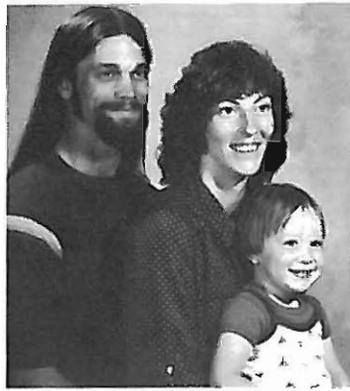


Trotter, Newell, Bramlett



Kenneth Trotter

Ken Benson, Advance Construction Field Engineer in Jack Coleman's RE office, has been telling everyone about the recent accomplishments of his sons. Kenny, Jr. graduated from the Army Warrant Officers Candidate School at Fort Sill, Oklahoma in June as an honor graduate and Vince graduated at the top of his class from the Army N.C.O. Academy at Fort Bragg, North Carolina in August. Ken, and his wife, Joan, were also happy to have another of their sons, Dennie, back in the U.S.A. after a year long tour with the Air Force in Turkey. Dennis's daughter, Denise, had been staying with her grandparents while he was in Turkey but has now gone to Phoenix, Arizona where her father is now stationed. So it seems now that Joan will be burning up the road between Fayetteville and Phoenix for awhile. The Benson's other son, Benny, is now a foreman for a contractor in the Fayetteville area. And by the way, Ken is back in school at UofA working on his Master's Degree, thanks to a fellowship sponsored by the FHWA.



Benny Benson family

Dale Spencer, Resident Engineer at Mena, transferred to Hot Springs in November. We all wish D.C. the best in his new assignment.

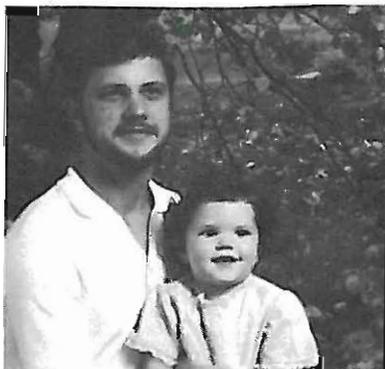
News from the Springdale RE office includes two weddings. On August 11, Michele Urban, Field Clerk, wed Robert Hopper. After a honeymoon trip to Hawaii, the happy couple settled down to domestic life. Robert is the son of Highway Commissioner and Mrs. Bobby Hopper of Springdale. Our best wishes to Robert and Michele.



Barton K. Benson, center



Vince and Jay Benson



Dennis and Denise Benson



Mrs. Robert Duane Hopper

Robert Hausam, Senior Construction Materials Supervisor, was married on August 18 to Carol Woodard. After a short honeymoon in Eureka Springs, the happy couple came back to move his household and her household into their household. We wish them happiness always.

Don Creech, Assistant RE, gave us a scare when he had quintuple bypass surgery on August 27. He is back home and doing great. We sure will be glad when he is back to work.

We extend a welcome to Gary Jewell, Construction Helper. We think he will be a real benefit to our office.

Congratulations and Kudo's to Jerry Stukey, inspector and Earnie Westfall, Advance Construction Field Engineer, on receiving their 10 year service awards. Presenting those awards was Resident Engineer Leon Brewer.



Westfall, Brewer, Stukey

## DISTRICT FIVE

Congratulations to the following employees on their years of service with the Department. Hubert C. Martin, 35 years; Daniel Garwood, 25 years; Clara Jones, Roy D. Pitts and Bill Allred, 20 years; A.C. Herron, James P. Branscum, Bred J. Sneed, Tom E. Vines, Jr., Norma J. McKinney, 15 years; Harold O. Carr, Billy J. Walker, and Harold C. Brezler, 10 years; Tommy G. Pretty, Elbert L. Layne, Gerald W. Cupler, Thomas J. Fife, and George H. Tyson, 5 years.



Winona Jones

Norma J. McKinney



Daniel Garwood

Roy Dean Pitts



Billy Allred

Elmer Gilbreath

We would like to wish a happy retirement to the following employees: J.E. Polk, Truck Driver and E.M. Birmingham, Area Headquarters Attendant in Jackson County; R.C. Rice, Truck Driver in White County; Alvin

Justice, Motor Patrol Operator and Elmer Lovell, Carpenter.

Pictured is Jack Barton, Mechanic, who retired on September 26 with 14 years of service. His fellow workers surprised him with a party that we all enjoyed.



Jack Barton

We would like to wish all retirees a healthy and rewarding retirement and hope they will not forget to stop by for a visit now and then.

## DISTRICT EIGHT

Congratulations to all of our service award recipients. There were Oren Roberts, Robert L. Turner, Floyd Denney, David Huggins, C.A. Freeman, Phillip Stroud, J.O. Chronister, Jerry Biffle and Dwight Hays, 5 years. Receiving 10 years awards were Edwin Parker, John Sketoe, Norman Brown, Bill Whitecotton, William Shipp, Barney Berry, Havis L. Rackley, Charles May, Joe Hurst and Troy Brown. Receiving 10 year award were Jimmy Hill, Leland Halcomb, Alfred J. Harms, R.L. Evans, and Glen Chavers.

Congratulations to A.G. Rivers, Jr., Senior Inspector, who is shown here receiving his 30 year service pin from Resident Engineer Remond Jones. A.G. and his wife, Delores, live in Clarksville and have two daughters, Angie, age 17, and Deeanna, age 14.



Remond Jones and A.G. Rivers

Nicky Bonds, who was a summer employee with the Van Buren County Crew, was named to the All-State Semi-Pro Baseball team in a tournament held at Fort Smith in August. Nicky is a pitcher-first baseman. He was 11 for

20, and a .550 average playing for Clinton in the tournament. Nicky attends Arkansas Tech University on a baseball scholarship. He is the son of Station Attendant Smitty Bonds in Van Buren County. Smitty's youngest son, Scotty, age 16, was named to the American Legion All District Baseball team at Little Rock. He played for the Clinton American Legion team.

Mr. and Mrs. James D. Washington are the proud parents of a big baby boy, Meremiah Dominic Washington. He was born August 22 and weighed 7 pounds. This is their first child. James is a Front End Loader Operator in Van Buren County.

The Van Buren County Maintenance Crew has their annual fish fry on September 28 with 50 people attending. All of the retired employees were introduced by Area Foreman Sam Evans. They were Dick Bolding, Vernie Eoff, John Gruben, Hoyt Smith, and Cecil Weaver. Those attending from the District were District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher and District Equipment Supervisor James McFerran. The menu of fish, chicken, hushpuppies and french fries was cooked by Crew Leader E.E. Olinger.

How about this 50 pound catfish! This whopper was caught August 10 at Lake Overcup by Van Buren County Crew Leader Erwin E. Olinger and former AHTD employee Floyd Ward.



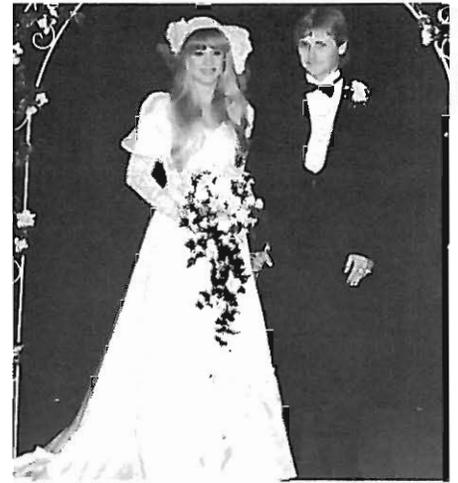
Floyd Ward and Erwin Olinger with 50 lb. catch

## DISTRICT NINE

Best wishes are extended to our newest District Nine retirees - Shirley Morton, Bud Wilson and Harlie McCutcheon. We will miss you all and wish you many years of good health and happiness.

Larry and Brenda Wheeler are the proud parents of a new 7 pound, 15 ounce baby boy, Jamie Eugene, who was born September 16. Larry is with the District Wide Construction Crew.

Congratulations to Teresa Rose and Keith Parker who were united in marriage on August 25 at the Bergman Church of Christ. Teresa



Mr. and Mrs. Keith Parker

is the daughter of Sammy and Frank Rose, our Assistant Maintenance Superintendent.

We also had another wedding in District 9. Marcia Lee and John Aylett were married September 15. Marcia is the daughter of Virginia and Don Lee. Don is with the District 9 Bridge Crew.



Mr. and Mrs. John Aylett

We wish both newlywed couples a long and happy life together.

The following service awards were presented at the District Supervisor's Meeting on August 29: J.W. Smith and J.T. Richardson, 25 years; Frank Rose, 20 years; and Connis Ingram, 15 years. Hang in there guys - you'll make it!



Richardson, Ingram, Smith



**V.O. Selby and Frank Rose**

Jack Brisco's RE Office entered a softball tournament for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. They waltzed through the tournament undefeated with a large trophy for their efforts! Proud of you, RE 94!

We have a new grandmother in the District 9 office. Alma Cantrell's daughter, Deb Cason, gave birth to a beautiful baby boy on September 24. Justin Andrew welcomed the new world at 8 pounds and 5 ounces. We wish Deb, Bob and little Andy the very best. (And thanks for making Grandma Alma and Grandpa Lewis so happy!)



**Justin Andrew Cason**

Our sincere sympathy is extended to J.B. Parker, our Madison County Area Foreman, and his family on the recent death of his mother.

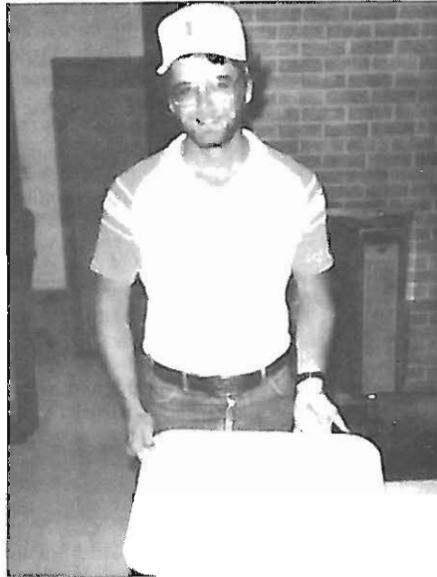
After Shirley Morton's retirement, a few changes were made here in the office at District 9. Glenda Roberts was promoted to District Secretary from the payroll position. Rick Widner was promoted from Fuel Clerk to Payroll Clerk and Alma Cantrell has been promoted from Receptionist to Fuel Clerk. With a little time and a LOT of help and patience, maybe the office will get back in good shape.

James McEntire transferred from James House's RE office to Jack Brisco's RE office in Bentonville. Mac works in the Materials Lab and he will be missed by his co-workers and friends, but we all wish him and his family luck and best wishes in his new location.

## DISTRICT TEN

District 10 said goodbye to a friendly face around the District office this summer. John

Farley, Stockroom Clerk, resigned in July after 7 years with the Department. We were sorry to see him go but wish him the very best in his endeavors.



**John Farley**

This handsome little guy is Patrick Ryan Kelley, 3 month old son of Danny and Patti Kelley of Strawberry. Patrick recently won "Cute Kiddie" contest at the Lawrence County Fair in Imboden. Grandpa Bobby G. Kelley, our Area Headquarters Attendant at Walnut Ridge, needless to say, is very proud of his first grandchild.



**Patrick Ryan Kelley**

Speaking of first grandchildren, we understand that Wayne Wood, Senior Inspector in the Jonesboro Residency, has a beautiful new granddaughter. Barbara, Wayne's daughter, and Jerry Baker became the proud parents of their first child on September 14. Cassidy weighed 7 pounds and 4 ounces and will undoubtedly be the center of attention in the Wood family for years to come. Grandma Portia assures us there will be plenty of pictures available for the next article.

District 10 would like to welcome some new employees to our area. Richard Sajak recently transferred to the Osceola Residency from Little Rock. Richard, a graduate of State Technical Institute of Memphis and a Registered Professional Engineer, has been employed with AHTD since May 1978. Randy Cooper is our new Stockroom Clerk. Randy was promoted from the Clay County Maintenance Crew where he had worked for three years. Also Steve Leath has joined the District Staff as our new Office Manager. Steve was formerly employed at the Children's Home of Paragould. Welcome aboard to all three of you and we look forward to working with each of you.

Well, it seems that Cupid has been on the prowl again. The arrows landed smack in the middle of the hearts of Mack McArthur, Osceola Maintenance Crew, and Melita Hall who were married on September 29. The yard neatly trimmed and a Gazebo decorated with live plants and ribbon made a lovely setting for the ceremony which took place at the home of the groom's father in Dyess. Mack is the son of Corkey Wilson, Office Technician in our Osceola Residency. Congratulations Mack and Melita.

The following employees received service awards and we would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them:



**Bob Metcalf, 15 years and Jim Dooley, 10 years**



**A.D. Beasley, 10 years, C.E. Short, 25 years, and B.D. Rogers, 15 years.**



**R.S. Glenn, 10 years; T.C. Berry, 10 years, R.G. Eaton, 5 years, and B.G. Kelley, 10 years.**



S.L. White, 15 years, W.H. Locke, 20 years; and D.R. Phillips, 20 years.



Guy Spears, 30 years, and Frank Russenberger, 10 years.



J. Crawford, 10 years; T.L. White, 20 years; and H.W. Blackwell, 15 years.



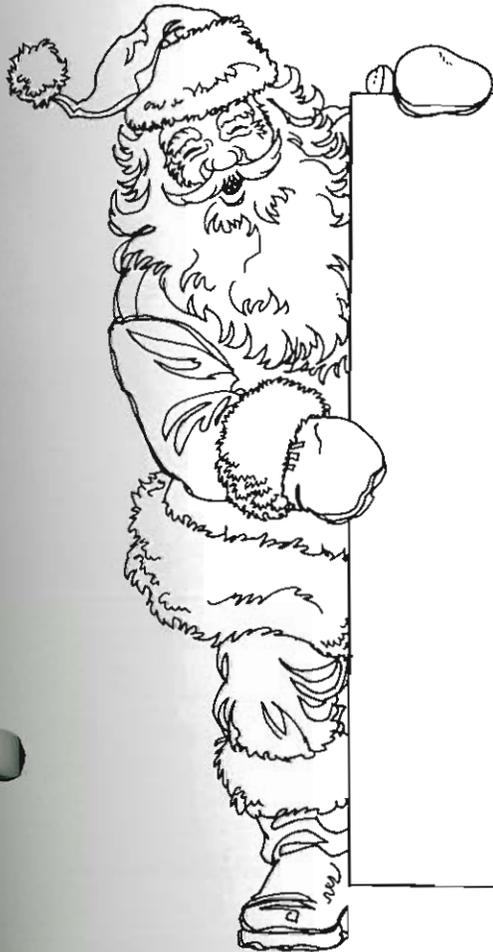
ennis Herren, 10 years, and Sherman Johnson, years.



Jerry Burton, 15 years



B.J. Barnett and Chuck Franks, 25 years.



# Merry Christmas

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