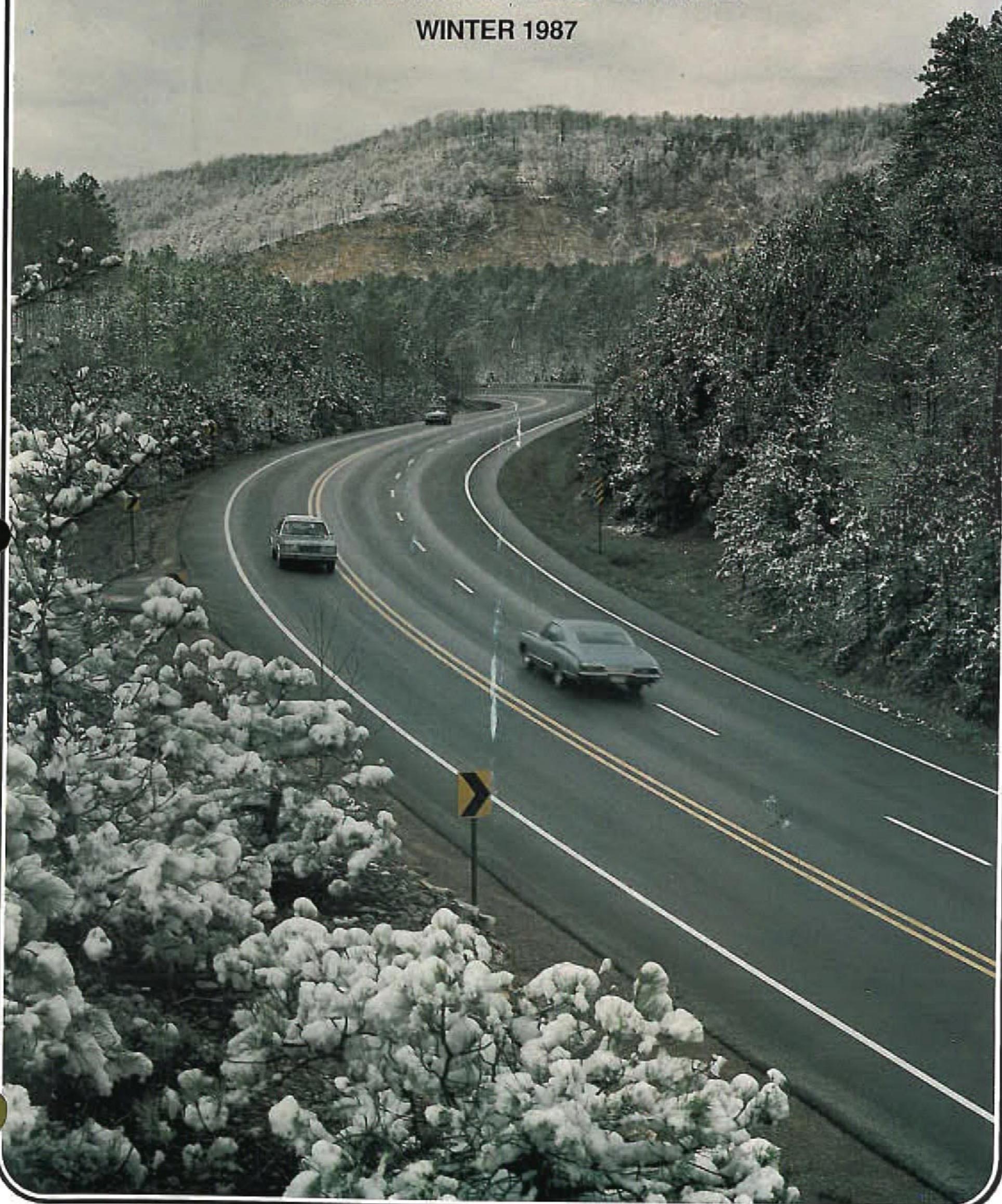


# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

WINTER 1987



## A Message from the Director



Henry Gray  
Director

Since my appointment as Director of the Department, a short almost 15 years ago, there have been many positive changes within the Department and in the State Highway System. Changes that have made for growth in the system, continued improvements in our abilities, our construction program and maintenance activities are due in large to the dedication and loyalty of the many fine employees within the Department.

In 1973 we had a budget of \$140 million, there were 3,801 employees and a 14,622-mile highway system. Today our budget is over \$300 million, the system has grown to 16,150 miles and 3,896 employees.

We have seen many accomplishments over the years. The State Highway System is the 16th largest in the nation. Arkansas was the first state to complete its original Interstate Highway System mileage, the number of miles of gravel and dirt state highways has steadily declined; we have continued to replace antiquated ferries across our rivers and streams with modern bridges, we have a State Aid Program that is responsible for the improvement of many hundreds of miles of county roads; our bridge inspection and

replacement program is recognized as one of the best nationally; hundreds of miles of rural state highways are being improved annually under the Rural Road Program, and we have a weight distance tax on heavy trucks that insures that the class of vehicles causing the most damage to our highways pays fairly and equitably for that damage.

Our responsibilities have grown tremendously, but the number of employees has remained nearly the same. This compliments your capabilities as department employees.

All of this has happened because the members of the State Highway Commission have continued to honor the commitments made by previous highway commissions over the years. Continuity, through the Mack-Blackwell Amendment, is the key to success; not only as practiced by the Commission, but as displayed by the longevity of the employees with the Highway and Transportation Department.

Many times over the years, we have had to make some tough decisions and the best interest of the taxpayers of Arkansas has always been the first priority in making each decision.

All that has been accomplished is a direct result of your loyalty and dedication, and I would like to use this opportunity to commend you and to say, "take pride in our success." It's been a great decade and a half.

I've enjoyed it and wish the best for you and your families in the years ahead as you continue to serve the people of Arkansas and the nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Henry Gray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Henry Gray  
Director of Highways & Transportation

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS



## ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

**BOBBY HOPPER**  
Chairman  
Springdale

**RAYMOND PRITCHETT**  
Vice Chairman  
Maumelle

**RON HARROD**  
Prescott

**RODNEY SLATER**  
Jonesboro

**W.L. "BILL" CLARK**  
Hot Springs

**HENRY GRAY**  
Director of  
Highways & Transportation

**B.K. COOPER**  
Chief Engineer

## WINTER 1987 VOLUME 33 NUMBER 4 Contents

Henry Gray Retires As Director of AHTD .....	2 & 3
Personnel Section Becomes Division .....	4 & 5
Legislature Approves New Weight/Distance Tax .....	6
35th Anniversary of Mack-Blackwell Amendment .....	7
Adopt-A-Highway Program Off To A Good Start .....	8
Ground Breaking Held for Harrison Tourist Info Center .....	9
Highway 18 in Jonesboro Dedicated .....	10
U.S. Highway 67 Dedicated .....	10
U.S. 64 Dedicated at Russellville .....	12
Cooper/Wesson Chosen As Boss/Secretary of the Year .....	13
Finkbeiner Recognized for Safe Driving .....	13
E.P. Douglas Celebrates 99th Birthday .....	14
Retiree Association Holds Statewide Meeting .....	15
AHTD Letters .....	16
AHTD Service Awards .....	18
AHTD Retirees .....	18
Around the Department .....	19

FRONT COVER PHOTO: U.S. Highway 70 in Saline County west of Benton. Photo by John Jackson.

BACK COVER PHOTO: View from Highway 65 near Bear Creek in Boone County. Photo by John Jackson.

*ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS* is published quarterly by and for employees of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department as a medium of departmental news and other information. Correspondence and material should be directed to *ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS* Editor, Public Affairs Office, P.O. Box 2261, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203. *ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS* is freely distributed to the public upon request and to all Highway and Transportation Department employees.

EDITOR .....

COMPOSITION & LAYOUT .....

PHOTOGRAPHER .....

Bill Stanton

Carolyn Johnson

John Jackson

## Gray To Retire After 25-Year Career



Of the many achievements during his 14 years as Director of the Highway and Transportation Department, Henry Gray is most proud of improvements made in employee salaries and benefits, the Weight Distance Tax of 1983 and the Rural Road Program of 1985.

Gray, a native of North Little Rock, announced in November that he would retire from the Department at the end of the year.

"There have been many changes over the years and all have been good for the Department, our employees, and the highway users of Arkansas," Gray said.

Reflecting back on a career that began as Chief of Right of Way in 1962, Gray said he is especially proud of the new salary plan that was approved by the Legislature in 1983. "The Department had developed the plan because of the many problems we were having with being unable to give pay raises to many of our long-time employees," he said. The new pay plan removed those long-time employees from the top step, where many had been frozen for years, and provided a better means of giving merit raises and cost-of-living raises.

For many years the Highway Commission had been successful in keeping the maximum truck weight limit at 73,280 pounds. "The Department simply did not have the revenues available to repair the highway damage that would be caused by allowing heavier weights," Gray said. "We developed the weight distance tax concept in 1983 after it was apparent the Federal government was going to mandate the heavier weight limit of 80,000 pounds," he said. The tax was applied to those trucks that would do the most damage and assure that the heavier trucks paid more of their fair share toward the repair of the highways.

The tax was challenged in the courts and became constitutionally suspect earlier this year. Gray, and members of the Highway Commission, convinced the Governor that a special legislative session was needed to correct any constitutional problems with the tax. This past October, the Legislature passed a new tax designed to produce nearly the same amount of revenues, while eliminating the constitutional concerns of the 1983 tax.

"The concept of a weight distance tax is very important," Gray said. "Other motorists and operators of light trucks should not have to pay additional taxes to repair the highway damage caused by the heavier trucks. We are glad the Legislature and Governor agreed that this is the most fair and equitable way to raise the necessary revenues," he said.

The passage of the Rural Road Program by the Legislature in 1985 has been proclaimed as one of the most significant pieces of legislation dealing with highways ever to be approved in Arkansas. The program is funded by a 4-cents-a-gallon increase in the gasoline tax and a 2-cents-a-gallon increase in the diesel tax. Over 1,600 miles of the 4,850-mile program have been placed under contract

since passage of the program. "The program has done more for the improvement of our rural highways than anything else," Gray said. "It is a very important program that will preserve the integrity of our state highway system for many years to come," he said.

Gray worked two years for the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission following graduation from the University of Wyoming with a degree in wildlife conservation. Before joining the Department, Gray was Chief of the Lands Division of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. During his ten years there he was responsible for the purchase and management of many thousands of acres of wetlands for wildlife. In recognition for his work, the Game and Fish Commission renamed one of the wildlife management areas he acquired in honor of Gray. The 15,300-acre Henry Gray/Hurricane Lake Wildlife Management Area in White County provides a habitat for resident and migratory species of wildlife and hunting and fishing opportunities for present and future generations of sportsmen and women.

At the AHTD Gray has held numerous top management positions including Chief of Right of Way and Legal, Assistant to the Chief Engineer for Administration and Realty, Assistant Director-Administration and Realty, and Assistant Director.

Arkansas has never lost a dollar of available Federal Aid since Gray has been Director. In fact, many times the State has been able to acquire additional federal funds that were not utilized by other states. The May 1979 letting set a dollar volume record of \$80.2 million for the 49 contracts awarded because of the availability of additional federal funds.

Initial construction of the East Belt Freeway at Little Rock began in 1976 and was completed in 1981. The 10-mile, \$152-million, Urban High Density project extends from I-30 in Little Rock to I-40 in North Little Rock. It is another example of Arkansas being able to take advantage of special federal funds for the improvement of the state highway system.

In 1977 a new name and a new dimension were added to the Department when Act 192 changed the name from Highway Department to Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. The Department was given the authority to coordinate planning for all modes of transportation, with specific responsibility for administration of mass transit and rail service planning.

Arkansas was the first state in the nation to complete its initial Interstate Highway System mileage.

The last of the \$136 million State Highway Refunding Bonds were burned at a Highway Commission meeting in 1975 to symbolize the fact that Arkansas had paid off all outstanding debts on its highway system. Arkansas has continued a pay-as-you-go system of highway improvements since that time.

Under Gray's leadership, improvements in employee benefits and working conditions have resulted in increased morale and productivity over the years. When he became Director, the Department had 3,801 employees. Today, there are 3,896, an increase of only 2.5%. At the same time, the mileage on the state highway system has increased 11%, from 14,622 miles to 16,150 miles. Over the past 14 years, gravel road mileage has been reduced from nearly 2,000 miles to 475 miles.

Gray has been actively involved in transportation matters nationally by serving as president of both the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials. He has also served on numerous committees of both organizations and is currently chairman of the National Conference of State Railway Officials.

It will be hard to imagine the Highway and Transportation Department without Henry Gray. His less efforts on behalf of the highway users of Arkansas are legend. We wish him, and his wife Mary Beth, the very best in the years ahead, and say "thank you" for all you have done.

# AHTD's Personnel Section Becomes A Division



Jane Wilson, Personnel Division Head



Melba Shepard, Personnel Officer

Effective August 27, 1987, the Department's Personnel Section was elevated to Division Status. In recent weeks many changes and additions have occurred in the Personnel Office. Organizational changes included the merging of the EEO and Insurance Sections into the Personnel function. The Safety Section has been transferred to Personnel as a part of the newly established Training and Safety Section. Jane Wilson, former Personnel Officer was promoted to Personnel Division Head and Melba Shepard, former Internal EEO Coordinator, was promoted to Personnel Officer.

### PERSONNEL OFFICE

Those employees who now make up the Personnel Division are excited about the roles they will be playing in this consolidated effort to serve the Department more effectively. In the near future, all Personnel Division employees will be located on the first floor of the Central Office Complex.

While these changes appear to be major on the surface, in fact, business will proceed as usual for the most part. The most tangible benefit is the increased opportunity for employee growth and development.

### TRAINING AND SAFETY SECTION

In order to add depth to the workforce so that the organization will have capable, trained and promotable personnel to fill positions that become available, a Training and Safety Section has been added to the Personnel Division. James Mansfield has been named Section Head. David Hunter is Video Production Specialist and will produce and edit film to be used in in-house training presentations.

Specialized training courses in technical and non-technical areas will be planned, developed and implemented in-house in order to better

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

accommodate the needs of the Department. This will allow employees to develop personally, technically and professionally. The established Safety Program will continue to function in the same effective matter.



David Hunter, sitting, Video Production Specialist, and James Mansfield, Section Head of the newly created Training and Safety Section.

### INSURANCE

A major benefit to Department employees is the availability of various insurance plans. Formerly, the Insurance Office was in the Fiscal



Kay Hoggard, left, and Diann Gwatney will continue to handle Insurance.

Services Division but has now become a part of the Personnel Division. Diann Gwatney, Insurance Representative and Kay Hoggard, Insurance Clerk, will continue to provide the same competent service to employees and retirees that we have all come to expect and appreciate.

### EEO SECTION

Henry Droughter has been promoted to Section Head of EEO and is responsible for both internal and external affairs, including Title VI. James Moore will assume the responsibility of External EEO Coordinator and will serve in that capacity along with Roosevelt Morton. It is not often that recognition is given to Highway agencies for accomplishments in the Civil Rights and EEO areas. The Department's Internal and External programs have both received recognition from the Federal Highway Administration for the significant accomplishments that have been achieved in these areas. The success of these programs is due largely to the efforts of the respective Coordinators; however, the Personnel Office has monitored personnel actions to insure that all applicants and employees are afforded an equal opportunity. The merging of the EEO Section in the Personnel Division will result in a coordinated effort that will strengthen the Department's affirmative action endeavors.



Henry Droughter, EEO Section Head

# Arkansas Legislature Approves New Weight/Distance Tax

The Arkansas State Legislature, meeting in special session October 6-9, reaffirmed its commitment to the concept of a weight/distance tax on heavy trucks by approving a new tax of 2.5 cents per mile. The tax is levied on trucks licensed to carry loads from 73,280 pounds to 80,000 pounds. Miles traveled empty will be exempt. Partial loads will be taxed at the full rate.

The Department proposed a new tax of 3 cents per mile to replace one enacted in 1983 that was constitutionally suspect because it charged 5 cents per mile with an annual cap of \$175. The American Trucking Association contended in a lawsuit challenging the 1983 tax that it discriminated against truckers who made relatively infrequent use of the state's highways. Those truckers were paying the tax at the rate of 5 cents per mile while Arkansas truckers and other truckers who frequently travel the state's highways were paying the \$175 a year rate, which the ATA charged allowed them to haul the heavy loads at a rate less than 5 cents per mile.

In August, Arkansas was ordered to place the revenues collected under the tax into an escrow account until the constitutional questions could be settled. Over \$5.2 million had been placed in escrow by the time Governor Bill Clinton called the special session to deal with the matter. Governor Clinton supported the Department's proposal for a 3 cents per mile tax with no annual cap.

Another proposal, supported by the Arkansas Poultry Federation and other industries, would have levied a 2 cents per mile tax on heavy trucks with loads actually in excess of 73,280 pounds. That proposal would have expanded exemptions to include trucks hauling agricultural products, poultry products, beef products and wood products. It also added an exemption for raw products until they had gone through their final processing, not their first point of processing.

The industry bill contained so many exemptions that highway officials and many legislators believed it would be unconstitutional. The number of exemptions also considerably reduced the amount of revenue projected to be generated.

The Senate version of the Department backed bill received approval in the Senate. However, the House Revenue and Taxation Committee gave do-pass recommendations to both House proposals, setting the stage for lengthy, and sometimes, heated debates. The industry proposal was barely approved in the House. Opponents of the Department backed bill failed in an attempt to amend it to exempt trucks actually loaded with less than 73,280 pounds. However, an amendment to the Department bill setting the tax rate at 2.5 cents per mile, passed after much debate.

The House voted not to place the Senate bill on a second reading, a parliamentary procedure that would have prevented the House from passing the bill on that day. The House then recessed so the Revenue and Taxation Committee could consider the 2.5 cents per mile amendment to the Senate bill. Commissioners and legislative supporters of the Department bill were confident that we would eventually gain House approval of the 3 cents per mile proposal, however, due to the necessity of having a new tax enacted to replace the revenues being lost because of the escrow order on the old tax, we agreed to support an amendment of 2.5 cents per mile. The Poultry Federation and other industry representatives also agreed to the amendment and dropped their demands for additional exemptions.

The new tax is expected to provide approximately \$25.8 million annually. The Department's original proposal of 3 cents per mile would have generated approximately \$29.8 million.



# *AHTD Celebrates 35th Anniversary of Mack-Blackwell Amendment*

November 4, 1987 marked the 35th Anniversary of Amendment 42 to the State's Constitution, creating the Mack-Blackwell Highway Commission. The Arkansas State Highway Commission was established April 1913 as part of the Department of State Lands, Highways and Improvements. It remained there until March 1927, when it was re-established as a separate state agency but under control of the Governor's office. Amendment 42 removed the Commission from that control and established a politically independent agency charged with administration of the State Highway Department. Amendment 42, more commonly referred to as the "Mack-Blackwell Amendment" was approved by the citizens of Arkansas on November 4, 1952, by a landslide vote (231,529 for; 78,291 against), creating a five-member independent Highway Commission charged with providing the State with an adequate transportation network. The Highway Commissioners serve ten-year staggered terms and are appointed by the Governor. The Commission hires the Director of the Highway and Transportation Department.

Amendment 42 brought an abrupt halt to the shameful, costly, inefficient, and almost useless system which had existed. It accomplished the purpose of ending the system whereby Highway Commissioners served at the pleasure of the Governor, and the appointment of the Highway Director was by the Governor, with all the political implications thereby obtained, which went all the way through the professional staff to the laborer.

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, thanks to the good judgement of the people of Arkansas, was launched into a new era of accomplishment with all the attributes of being able to plan and pursue highway improvements in a professional manner, while keeping in mind the priorities in all sections of the State.

Today's State Highway System with its 16,153 miles, is an investment of \$5 billion plus, representing the tremendous progress which has evolved during the past three and one-half decades under the direction of the five-members Mack-Blackwell Highway Commission. A new era that exemplifies sound management, effective planning, and endless dedication to the citizens of Arkansas. Today the Department has a great professional staff, with loyal and dedicated employees throughout the State. The "Mack-Blackwell Amendment" has given Arkansas an irreplaceable and unprecedented asset: career-oriented employees with professional and technical knowledge, skill, and dedication to serve the transportation needs of the State as they have never been served before.

# Adopt A Highway Program Off To A Good Start

Guidelines for the Adopt A Highway Program were circulated in July, and since that time, 15 civic organizations statewide have adopted sections of highways for the purpose of litter control.

Arkansas State University at Jonesboro was the first to "adopt a highway". The University will be responsible for a section of Highway 49 that passes through the University property.

The Felsenthal Committee of the Crossett Area Chamber of Commerce became the second organization to join the effort just a few days later.

The main emphasis of the Committee is promotion of beautification activities in the Crossett area, according to committee chairman Tom Streetman. Streetman contacted the District 2 office in Pine Bluff in early July, shortly after the Highway Commission established guidelines for the program, requesting assistance in developing the program for the Crossett area.

The Crossett Chamber of Commerce committee adopted a two-mile section of Highway 82 from Marie Saline Road east toward Crossett. A sign has been placed at the beginning of the section to identify the highway as one adopted under the program. The group held its first litter pickup campaign on Saturday, October 24.

Each year the Department incurs a considerable expense in providing litter control along the State's 16,150-mile highway system. In the past year this expense was nearly \$694,000.

According to the guidelines established for the program, the section of highway to be adopted would generally be from one to three miles in length. Interstate or freeway-type highways are excluded from the program. Consideration is given to traffic volumes, types and speed and to the geometrics of the highway in selecting appropriate program sites.

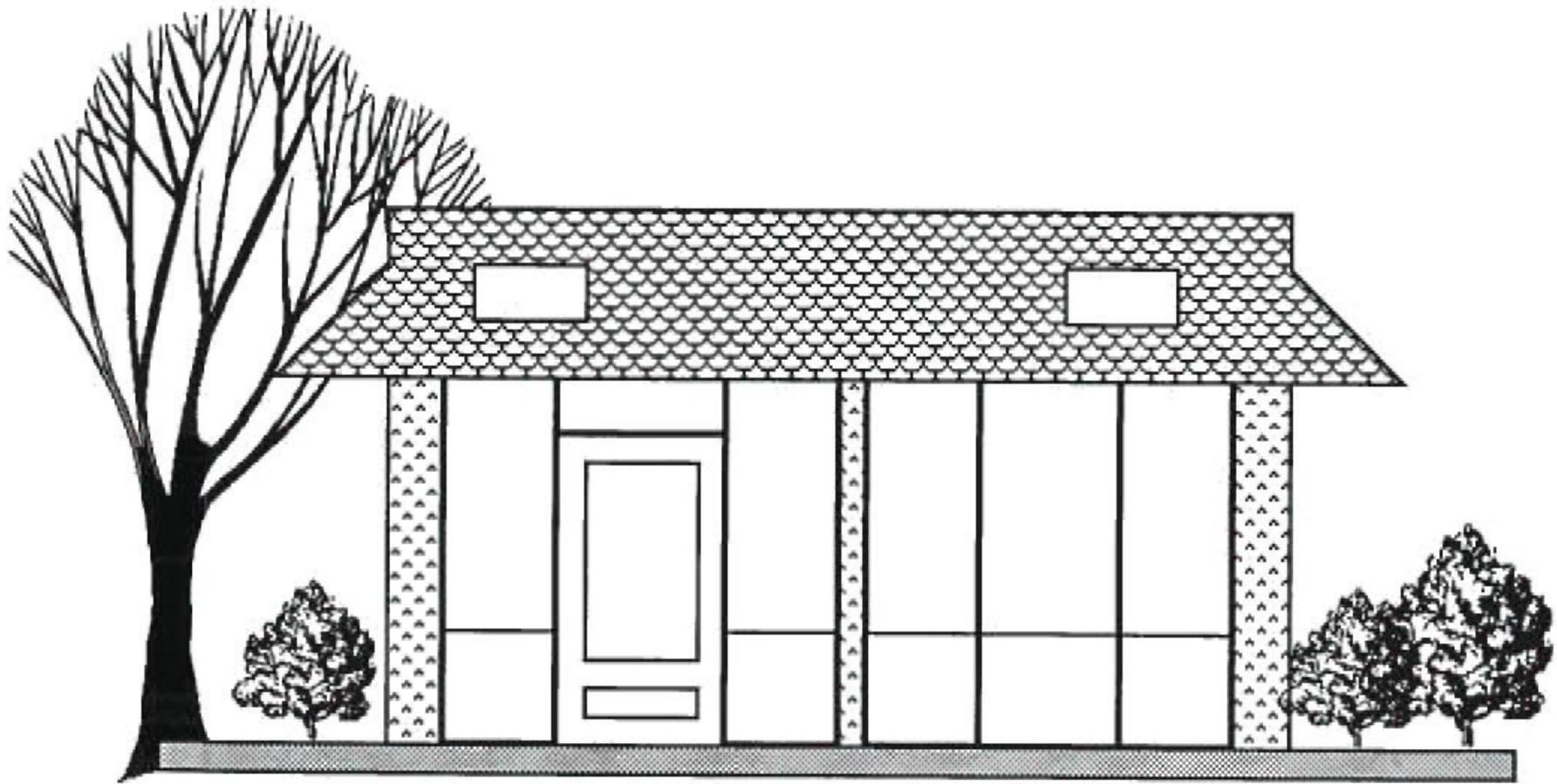
Litter cleanup activities are coordinated with the appropriate Highway District management, which monitors the organization's activities relative to safety. The Department provides safety vests, advance warning signs and litter bags. The Department also disposes of the bagged litter.

The recommended adoption period is for one year, renewable at the request of the organization. Upon successful completion of participation in the program, the adopting organization will be presented an award of recognition by the Department.

The Adopt A Highway Program could save the Department a considerable amount of expense, based on the degree of participation. Not only will the taxpayer receive a monetary benefit from the program, but there will also be a public benefit in providing a more aesthetically pleasing highway system upon which both the citizens of the State and the State's many tourists can travel.



Highway 82 near Crossett, is a recently adopted section of highway under the Adopt A Highway Program. Pictured from left to right are Harry Stephens, Felsenthal Committee, AHTD Ashley County Area Foreman Jimmy Johnson, committee member Janice Clark, AHTD District 2 Permit Officer Bettye Carter, and Committee Chairman Tom Streetman.



### Ground Breaking Held For Harrison Tourist Information Center

More than a dozen State and local officials joined with members of the Highway Commission to break ground at the site for the new Harrison Tourist Information Center on Highway 65, September 1.

The Highway Commission awarded a \$125,000 contract to F.B.R. Company of Harrison in July to construct the center located on Highway 65 north of Harrison near the Highway 62 intersection. The parking lot and several picnic facilities were built at the site in 1979 as part of the widening of Highway 65 from Harrison to near Bear Creek.

Highway Commission Chairman Bobby Hopper told the audience that had gathered under a shade tree at the site, that the center was first suggested in 1967 by former State Senator Vada Sheid of Mountain Home. It was programmed by the Commission in 1971. State funds were authorized, however, budget restraints prevented the project from being funded. Governor Bill Clinton had long been interested in the center, Hopper said, "and when he asked the Highway Commission to provide the funds for the construction, the members were unanimous in their support for this project."

The center will be staffed by employees of the Parks and Tourism Department and the Highway and Transportation Department will maintain the building and grounds. Construction of the center should be completed by the end of April 1988.



Highway Commissioners Bill Clark, Ron Harrod, Rodney Slater, and Bobby Hopper, break ground for the new Center.

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

### Highway 18 in Jonesboro Dedication Ceremony Held



Highway Commissioner Rodney Slater

A ceremony to officially dedicate the recently completed widening of Highway 18 (Highland Drive) in Jonesboro was held September 12.

The highway was widened from two lanes to four lanes with turning lanes at a cost of \$1.2 million. The 1.047-mile project was let to contract in September 1986 to J.W. Githens Company of Poplar Bluff, Missouri. The work was financed with 100% State Funds.

The city of Jonesboro had established the widening of the highway as a top priority. Because of cost considerations, the overall project was

divided into three sections with the section from Brown's Lane to Stadium Drive as the first project.

Highway Commissioner Rodney Slater of Jonesboro told the crowd gathered for the dedication that current traffic counts showed nearly 12,000 vehicles per day using that section of the highway.

"Additional lanes from Main Street to Brown's Lane is the next priority," Slater said, pointing out that approximately 10,700 vehicles per day were using that section.

Slater gave credit to the Rural Road Program for providing the funding necessary to construct the project. "Without the additional State funds generated by the enactment of the Rural Road Program in 1985, the money for this work would not have been available," Slater said.



Arkansas Senator Jerry Bookout of Jonesboro cuts the ribbon to officially open Highway 18

### New Section of U.S. Highway 67 Dedicated in Jackson and White Counties

A 12-mile section of the Highway 67 Relocation project in Jackson and White Counties was officially dedicated November 3. Included on the four-lane, divided highway is the new White River Bridge near Grande Glaize.

Former Highway Commissioner George Kell of Newport told the audience that had gathered at the north end of the project near Ingleside that the completion of the highway symbolized the commitment made by the Highway Commission to the improvement of Highway 67.

"When I went on the Commission in 1971, this highway was one of those that the people in this area of the state told me they wanted as a top priority," Kell said. "I continued the commitment made by former Highway Commissioner Truman Baker and it is now being continued by Commissioner Raymo Pritchett," he added.

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Kell said it was that type of commitment that made the Mack-Blackwell Highway Commission such a great institution. But the Commissioners cannot do it alone, he said. "They need the support of the people. I believe Northeast Arkansas has shown it is concerned and willing to work for the betterment of our highways," he added.

Kell pointed out that the work on Highway 67 is continuing from Ingleside to Newport and that the highway will provide a means for greater economic development in the area.

Pritchett noted that continuity and commitment were evident in the progress being made on Highway 67. "This is a great day. It is also a day of relief to me that we finally have finished this section of highway," he said.

Construction on this section of Highway 67 began in May 1981 with the award of the first phase of work on the new White River Bridge. Since that date, ten separate contracts have

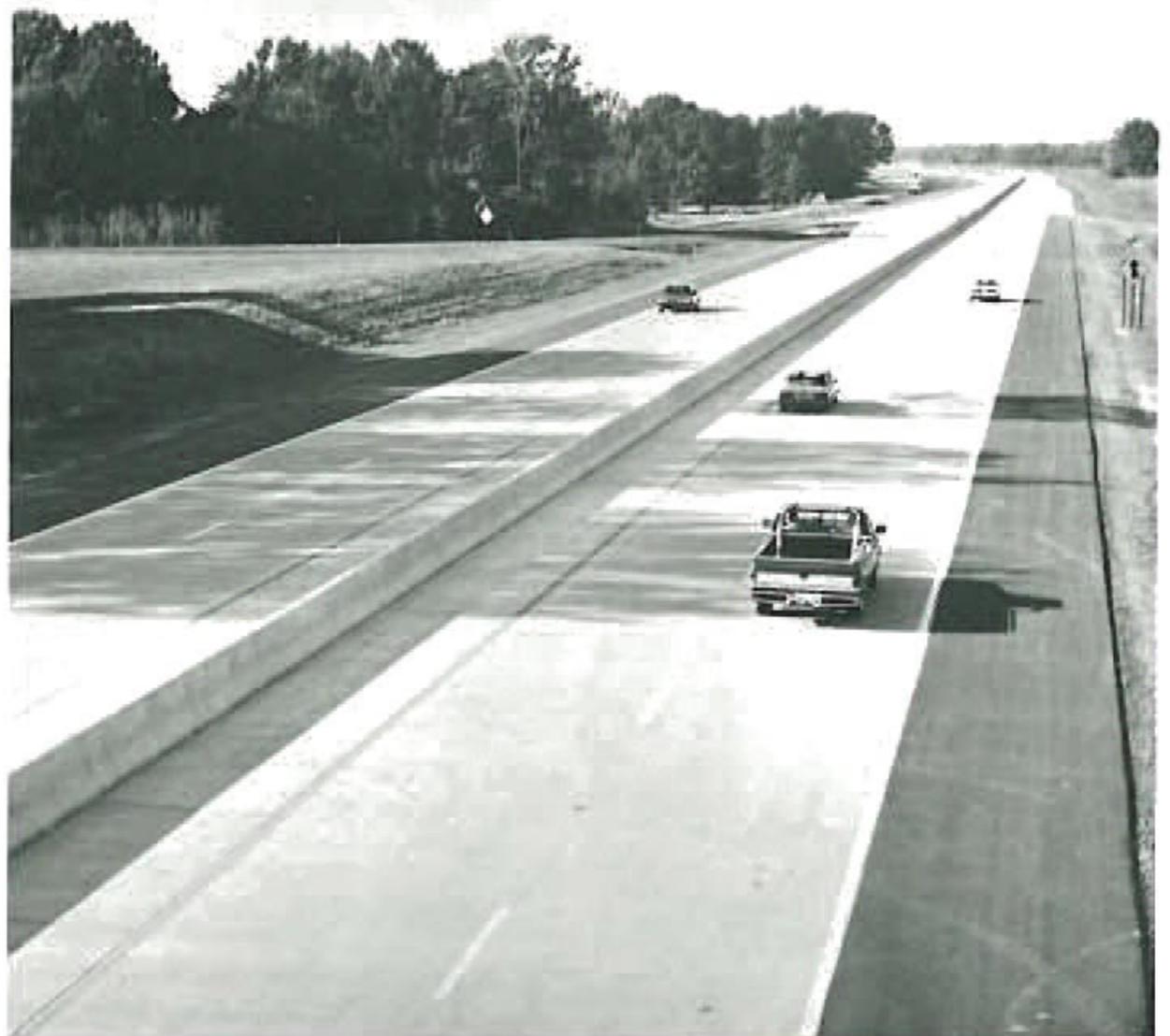
been awarded at a cost of approximately \$34.1 million. Right of way acquisition and utility adjustments were \$2.1 million, bringing the total cost of the project to \$36.2 million.

The project begins near Bradford and extends north to Highway 224 at Ingleside. Traffic between Ingleside and Newport now travels Highway 224 and Highway 14. That section of highway was recently widened and resurfaced and the intersection at Highway 67 and Highway 14 in Newport was modified to handle the increased traffic.

Work to relocate Highway 67 began in the late 1950's near the Little Rock Air Force Base at Jacksonville. The highway now extends nearly 80 miles from I-40 at North Little Rock to Ingleside.

A section of the newly dedicated U.S. Highway 67.

Former Highway Commissioner  
George Kell



## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

# Dedication for U.S. Highway 64 Held at Russellville

A 1.6-mile section of U.S. Highway 64 between Knoxville Avenue and Highway 331 in Russellville was officially dedicated November 6. The highway was widened from three lanes to five lanes.

Highway Commission Vice Chairman Raymond Pritchett told the audience of nearly 75 people that highway needs throughout the State are quite different. "In North Arkansas, you hear the need for four-lane highways to increase growth and attract potential industry", he said. "However, in the River Valley the needs you hear are transportation arteries from industrial locations to a four-lane highway, in this case, Interstate 40." Pritchett stressed the importance of this project because it clearly illustrates what can be produced when all people of the State work together for a better highway system.

State Senator Lu Hardin commented that this was a great day for the city of Russellville. Hardin noted that the project creates an artery to help attract industry as well as serve general traffic needs locally. Hardin said that good roads are literally essential for economic growth in a community.

State Representative L.L. "Doc" Bryan of Russellville said traffic has increased from 15,000 vehicles per day to about 18,000 since 1985. "Today is a dream come true," he told the group on hand for the dedication, "I shudder to think what traffic would be like now on East Fourth Street if we didn't have the Railroad Overpass. With the support of the Chamber of Commerce, the chamber's transportation committee and others, we will see more roads like this," Bryan said.

The contract on this section of Highway 64 was awarded to Southern Pavers, Inc. of Pine Bluff in October 1985 for \$2,284,158 which was 100% State funds.



Highway Commission Vice Chairman  
Raymond Pritchett.



(Left to Right) Russellville Mayor Vernon Howard, Highway Commissioners Rodney Slater, Ron Harrod, Raymond Pritchett, Bill Clark, and Bobby Hopper, Senator Lu Hardin and Representative Doc Bryan.

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

### Cooper/Wesson Chosen As Boss/Secretary of the Year



Billy Cooper, (left photo) Chief Engineer, was selected as the 1987 Boss of the Year by the Interdepartmental Relations Committee. Cooper, who has been Chief Engineer 17 years, was nominated by his secretaries, Lindy Hobson, left, and Doris Mixon, Shirley Wesson, (right photo) Internal Audit Section Secretary, received the Secretary of the Year honors. Audit Chief Bill McDorman, left, submitted her nomination. Wesson has been section secretary for 7 years. Cooper and Wesson's selections shows that the AHTD has the best managers and employees in State Government.

### Finkbeiner Recognized for Safe Driving

Don Finkbeiner, Assistant Section Head of the Mapping and Graphics Section of the Planning Division, has been recognized by the Arkansas State Employees Association Van Pool Program for completing a safe driving record of 150,000 miles. Finkbeiner has been driving one of the A.S.E.A.'s vans from Perryville since September 1981.

The Van Pool Program, now in its eighth year of operation, is made up of 51 fifteen-passenger vans operating routes in an 11-county area of Central Arkansas.

More than 700 individuals, state employees and non-state employees, make use of the service each workday commuting to and from cities and towns like Lonoke, Conway, Sheridan, Hot Springs, Cabot, Morrilton, Pine Bluff and Malvern.

The A.S.E.A.'s Van Pool has been recognized by the FHWA and the Federal Transportation Department as one of the most successful ride-sharing programs in the Country.



Don Finkbeiner at the wheel of his State Employees' Van.

### E.P. Douglas Celebrates 99th Birthday

Eldridge P. Douglas, who is the Department's oldest retiree, celebrated his 99th birthday November 29. Douglas retired from the Department in 1958 after a career that began in 1924 as a Resident Engineer in east Arkansas.

Douglas, who now resides at Little Rock's Presbyterian Village, was born in Nashville, Tennessee, November 29, 1888. He is still a very active gentleman who greets visitors with a tight-gripped handshake and a hardy "how do you do".

Douglas attended Wallace University and Simms Training School before entering the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. As a sophomore he switched from Electrical Engineering to Civil Engineering and later completed home studies with the Wilson Engineering Corporation. He is a respected Professional Civil Engineer.

In 1918, Douglas attended Field Artillery Training School and was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant. He served in World War I in Field Artillery. Upon returning to civilian life, Douglas resumed his Civil Engineering career in eastern Arkansas. In the winter of 1922, Douglas, along with Tom Jacks, was commissioned by the county judges of Lee and Phillips counties to resurvey the county lines and determine definitely where the boundaries were. While engaged in this effort, Douglas and Jacks began cutting the bark from trees in the vicinity where they thought Robins and Brown's survey of November 10, 1815 existed, from which the lands of the Louisiana Purchase were surveyed. They found the figures plainly branded in a small tree. At the time of this finding, the survey had been lost for more than fifty years.

After this historical achievement, Douglas became associated with the Department as a Resident Engineer. During this time



E.P. Douglas, left, with daughter Mrs. Mary Louise Reynolds.

he was assigned to bridge construction projects and earned, and retains, the reputation for being one of the most experienced engineers on foundations and heavy bridge construction in the South.

Among some of his assignments were the Coty Bridge near Marianna, the Calion Bridge near El Dorado, a bridge over the St. Francis River near Madison, and overpasses in Fayetteville.

In addition to being in charge of one of the largest bridges in the State at that time, the Calion Bridge, he was assigned a young instrumentman just out of college. According to Douglas, he patiently undertook to undo some of the things the young man had learned in school and to acquaint him with the factual arts of bridge building. That young man, the late Ward Goodman, continued to grow and later became Chief Engineer and Director of the Highway Department.

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

---



Raymond Jones, right, receives the gavel from out-going President Ralph Jones, as Secretary/Treasurer Sybil Maddox looks on.

### **AHTD Retirees Association Holds Annual Statewide Meeting**

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department Retiree Association was held October 29, 1987, in Burns Park's Hospitality House in North Little Rock with 177 members attending.

Election of 1988 State Chapter Officers resulted in the following: Raymond Jones, President; Don Martin, Vice President; and Sibyl Maddox, Secretary/Treasurer.

Five years after its founding, the AHTD Retiree Association now claims a statewide membership of 764. This is an increase of 18 percent over last year. Sibyl Maddox, Secretary/Treasurer says this is due to the continuous efforts of each District chapter. District One had the largest percentage increase in members in 1987, with District Two second.

Formed in 1982, the Association's chief purpose is to provide a means for retired AHTD employees to keep close ties with their fellow workers and keep them informed on matters regarding legislation that pertains to retired persons.

The organization has grown in membership every year since it was formed. Last year the membership goal was 600, which was surpassed. This year, the goal has been set at 800. The \$10.00 per-member dues have been maintained, with half of this amount being returned to each district chapter for expenses.

Anyone interested in joining the Association should contact Sibyl Maddox, 202 Santa Fe Trail, Little Rock, Arkansas 72205. Checks should be made payable to AHTD Retiree Association, or applications can be turned in at the local district chapter and it will be forwarded to the State Chapter.

## AHTD Letters

August 5, 1987

Mr. Gene Burnes  
Arkansas Highway Department  
Wynne, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Burnes:

On Sunday, July 12, 1987, my husband and I were traveling from Nashville, Tennessee to Arlington, Texas. We stopped at the West Memphis Tourist Center, used the rest rooms and visited the center. When we arrived home, about 8:00 p.m. Sunday, we realized my husband's wallet was gone.

Monday morning, I called and talked to De Faye Thomas, the manager of the West Memphis Tourist Center, and told her my story, and asked if possibly the wallet had been turned in. She checked, and came back to tell me to my great pleasure, that it had been turned in by the maintenance man at the center, Leon McAlister.

My husband and I wanted to let you know about this, and to let you know how grateful we are that you have such an employee as Mr. McAlister. In our opinion he should be highly commended by your department. Also, I would like you to know how helpful and courteous Ms. Thomas was. We greatly appreciate the honesty and thoughtfulness of these two people.

Sincerely,  
Karen and Jeff Barlar  
Arlington, Texas  
.....

September 15, 1987

Transportation Department  
District 2  
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Dear Sirs:

It is our pleasure to express our appreciation for a beautiful park to stop and rest. Also we enjoyed to clean rest rooms. The rest area is so inviting for travelers. We met a very polite employee there. His name is C.G. Davis.

Thank you.

Respectfully yours,  
Mr. & Mrs. Ruble Cothran  
Itla Bena, Mississippi  
.....

AHTD District 9  
Harrison, Ark.

Dear Sirs:

This past Monday I was severely stung by honeybees. It was apparent I was in need of medical attention so I started to drive to the hospital in Yellville. My condition deteriorated and I pulled off the highway at the State Highway Department and asked for help.

Kenneth Oxford and Brian Schwarty leaded me into a pickup truck and called ahead to the hospital so that help was immediate upon arriving. My blood pressure was 0/60 upon arrival. It was so low three areas had to be probed in order to find a blood vessel in order to get an IV started.

I am quite sure Mr. Oxford and Mr. Schwarty helped save my life. I urge to you recognize these two men for their service. I appreciate the Arkansas highways upon which I drive but I am more appreciative of the fact that I am still able to drive upon them.

Sincerely,  
Everett Middleton  
Flippin, Arkansas  
.....

September 30, 1987

Mr. Ralph Fulton  
District 9 Engineer  
Harrison, Arkansas

Dear Sir:

This letter is long overdue - at least one year - and probably longer. We want to compliment Mr. Connis Ingram, Mr. Greer and other AHTD employees here in Baxter County for the excellent work they continue to do on our Highway 178, and we know they do the same on other state roads.

Today they are patching shoulders that are in need of being brought up to blacktop level. Since they have put in most of the morning just west of our house, well, it had been inspected by me (Mrs. Studdard). "A mighty fine job on an area that needed it." That seems to be the aim of each one of them.

Also, we want you to know how dedicated they are and how in the wintertime they maintain the roads constantly - 24 hours a day when we have snow and/or ice cover. They are a great group! We are indeed grateful for the conscientious workers, however, we are sure you are aware of this since you have been District 9 Engineer.

Gratefully,  
C.C. and Doris Studdard  
Mountain Home, Arkansas  
.....

August 20, 1987

AHTD District 2  
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Dear Sir:

Thanks so much for the beautiful job you have done on the high grass at the Tillar Post Office. I need to hire you for the U.S. Postal Service. You do get the job done and in a hurry. I do want you to know how much we appreciate it and how nice it looks.

If you ever need us here, do let us help.

Louis Burns, Postmaster  
Tillar, Arkansas

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

October 5, 1987

Arkansas Highway Police  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Sirs:

On Friday, September 25, 1987, we experienced battery problems near the U-Catch-um catfish pond, not to far from Reynolds Metal Plant and Mr. Jan Weinberg jumped the battery twice and then took my husband into Bryant to purchase a battery at a station which delivered and installed the battery and we were then able to return to our home in North Little Rock.

We are senior citizens and Mr. Weinberg was the most considerate and helpful Highway Policeman we have ever met and deserves our praise forever. Will you thank him again for us and we feel our state is very fortunate to have such a wonderful man as a Highway Policeman.

Sincerely,  
Mr. and Mrs. L.G. Luhrsen  
North Little Rock, Arkansas

\*\*\*\*\*

August 18, 1987

Arkansas Highway Dept.  
District 8  
Russellville, Arkansas

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express my deepest thanks to two very nice gentlemen who I believe work for your Department. My 14-year-old son and I were on our way home to Muskogee, Oklahoma from Tennessee, when I pulled into a rest stop on I-40 near Morrilton. My car blew a radiator hose. I don't know what the temperature was, but it seemed like 100-degrees in the shade. My funds were low, and I didn't know how I was going to get my car fixed so we could get home, or the nearest place to get a hose or how I was going to get it put on.

If it hadn't been for those two men, I would have been left stranded, but they did help me get to a place to get a hose and put it on my car for me, and I am very grateful. I offered to pay them something, but they would not take it and told me I needed what I had to get home. So I am writing this letter to say thanks to Mr. Phillip Stroud and Mr. Earl Metcalf, the two nice men who helped me from the Arkansas Highway Department.

Thanks again.

Sincerely yours,  
Deborah Leebrick  
Muskogee, Oklahoma

*Editor's Note: Phillip Stroud and Earl Metcalf are Rest Area Attendants in the County County Crew of District 8.*

October 5, 1987

Mr. Ralph Fulton  
District 9 Engineer  
Harrison, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Fulton:

I am writing to tell you of the courtesy shown to my parents and myself by one of the Arkansas Highway Department employees, Mr. Doyle Root.

Shortly before noon on September 8th, we were returning to Texas along you State Highway 23 approximately two miles south of St. Paul when I ran over a piece of metal in the roadway causing a blowout on our left front tire. By the time I was able to stop the car on the shoulder of the road, we were even with Mr. Root and a mowing crew.

Mr. Root immediately came over to see if we were alright. We talked briefly with him and then began to unload the spare tire and the jack from under the luggage. As we took out each piece, Mr. Root began to assemble the jack and loosen the lug bolts. My Dad, though large in stature, is a heart patient and shouldn't be exerting himself with such chores as changing a flat tire. Mr. Root changed the tire alone and put the ruined tire into the trunk. He then directed us back along route 23 to St. Paul as the nearest location in which we could purchase a tire. He adamantly refused any payment for his greatly appreciated service.

We drove to the garage in St. Paul and were able to purchase a replacement tire. While we waited for the new tire to be installed, Mr. Root, who was now on his noon lunch break, drove up to check whether or not we had been able to find a replacement.

We appreciated Mr. Root's kindness so very much and wanted to commend you for your choice of Mr. Root as an employee. He is indeed a Goodwill Ambassador for the beautiful State of Arkansas.

Sincerely yours,  
Mrs. Glenda Riker  
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Waits  
Dallas, Texas



# AHTD Service Awards

## SEPTEMBER 1987

### 35 Years

William C. Doughty ..... District 8  
 Gerald L. Dumeny ..... District 6  
 Henry H. McCrotty ..... Traffic

### 25 Years

Norman Cobb ..... District 6  
 Frank A. Cross ..... District 3  
 Bennie B. Edwards ..... District 9  
 Henry C. Gray ..... Director  
 Charles F. Mauk ..... District 3

### 20 Years

Earl E. Bates ..... District 4  
 Waylon J. Chambers ..... District 6  
 Nelson Farmer ..... AHP  
 Carlos J. Lester ..... AHP  
 Marvin E. Staton ..... Programs & Contracts  
 Eddie R. Woodward ..... District 5

### 15 Years

George H. Barfield ..... District 2  
 Charles P. Brand ..... Bridge  
 William O. Carpenter ..... District 2  
 William H. Cox ..... District 9  
 Mary E. Crow ..... Fiscal Services  
 Jacquelyn A. Greer ..... Planning  
 Leonard Hall ..... District 6  
 Carroll G. Horton ..... District 9  
 James N. Mallett ..... District 9  
 Susan E. Martin ..... District 3  
 Paul N. Morgan ..... District 10  
 John W. Parks ..... District 3  
 Floyd R. Slayden ..... District 5  
 Robert E. Tyler ..... Environmental  
 Bennie L. Walker ..... District 4

### 10 Years

Benny J. Barbaree ..... District 7  
 James L. Baxter ..... District 6  
 Stephen B. Brown ..... District 6  
 William F. Caton ..... District 3  
 Roy R. Clark ..... District 10  
 Ricky D. Dodson ..... District 9  
 Gary E. Doving ..... District 9  
 George F. Gregory ..... District 1  
 Carl B. Harrell ..... Planning  
 Samuel Henderson ..... District 6  
 Jesse J. Henry, Jr. .... District 8  
 Jimmy W. Ingram ..... District 4  
 Robert D. Jackson ..... District 9  
 Evelyn G. Kiernan ..... Maintenance  
 Glenn B. Malmquist ..... District 6  
 Peggy J. Martin ..... Construction  
 Terry A. McCallister ..... Equipment & Procurement  
 Larry W. Pillow ..... District 10  
 Debra J. Pruitt ..... District 2  
 John C. Reynolds ..... District 7  
 David K. Richards ..... District 4  
 Bill J. Ritchie ..... District 8  
 Duane L. Sowell ..... Safety  
 Benny R. Thompson ..... District 7  
 Laverne Thompson ..... Legal  
 Harold T. Vines ..... AHP  
 Howard W. Willis ..... Right of Way

### 5 Years

Emma M. Barbee ..... District 10  
 James C. Hefley ..... District 9  
 Tonya K. Musial ..... Computer Services  
 Danny C. Potter ..... HB Maintenance  
 Hollis D. Reynolds ..... Traffic

## OCTOBER 1987

### 35 Years

Frank R. Battisto ..... Surveys

### 30 Years

Dempsey M. Burrow ..... District 6  
 Muriel Cater ..... District 2  
 Ferrell D. Cato ..... District 8  
 Carl U. Williams ..... District 10

### 25 Years

Paul L. Broyles ..... Right of Way  
 Larry E. Cox ..... District 6  
 Orville L. Gold ..... District 5  
 Jimmie D. Head ..... Planning  
 Williams E. Kirkpatrick ..... Materials & Research

### 20 Years

J. Thomas Carley ..... District 10  
 Charles E. Ghormley ..... District 3  
 Gary C. Hawkins ..... District 8  
 Marion D. Lingo ..... District 3  
 Jerry W. Richmond ..... District 10  
 Joe M. Sorrels ..... District 8

### 15 Years

Leslie R. Barnett ..... District 4  
 Frederick S. Doles ..... District 6  
 Glendal F. Easton ..... District 10  
 Leroy Farr ..... District 6  
 William P. Hogan ..... State Aid  
 George H. Montgomery ..... District 7  
 James E. Moody ..... Right of Way  
 Donald L. Purifoy ..... District 7  
 Jimmy M. Whitlow ..... AHP  
 Robert L. Williams ..... Planning

### 10 Years

Eton L. Bearden ..... District 4  
 Ralph E. Burge ..... District 6  
 Donald C. Chenevey ..... District 9  
 James L. Clark ..... AHP  
 David W. Cook ..... District 6  
 John W. Davidson ..... District 8  
 Perry Anthony Ellis ..... Computer  
 Edward B. Fisher ..... District 4  
 Jimmy A. Francis ..... Surveys  
 Randall S. Freeman ..... District 8  
 Otis Harris ..... District 5  
 Ray E. Jett ..... District 4  
 James A. Jones ..... Traffic  
 Kenneth F. Moody, Jr. .... AHP  
 Thomas J. Pillow ..... District 10  
 James E. Pound ..... District 6  
 Waymond P. Price ..... District 8  
 John L. Rolland ..... District 1  
 Jacob M. Schmidt ..... District 5  
 Larry H. Shuburte ..... District 1

### 5 Years

Walter B. Barrow ..... District 3  
 Carl Bennett ..... Planning  
 J.L. Bonds ..... District 4  
 Michael L. Brown ..... Traffic  
 Monte L. Collums ..... District 8  
 Harlan B. Davis ..... District 10  
 Ricky S. Dowdle ..... Traffic  
 Earl L. Green ..... District 2  
 Donald E. Heath ..... District 1  
 Marinette Lansdale ..... District 2  
 Robert C. Marsh ..... District 8  
 Raymond L. Moix ..... Computer  
 Stephen E. Neff ..... District 4  
 Billy J. Patterson ..... Equipment & Procurement  
 Thomas E. Proffitt ..... AHP  
 Chuck E. Sitton ..... Materials & Research  
 Roy L. Vannatter ..... District 5  
 John W. Vickers ..... AHP  
 Ricky A. Williams ..... District 3

## Retirees

### AUGUST 1987

Jearl E. Baker ..... District 4  
 Vernie Berry ..... District 9  
 Norman A. Breedlove ..... District 9  
 Kenneth M. Clark ..... District 9  
 Orville G. Elumbaugh ..... District  
 Charles E. Franks ..... District 10  
 John C. Garrigus ..... District 8  
 Clarence J. Harper ..... AHP  
 Jack G. Kerr ..... District 6  
 James Max Kochler ..... Chief Engineer  
 George E. Mason ..... District 2  
 Frank S. McKellar ..... AHP  
 Thomas W. Nowlin ..... District 1  
 Richard A. Pierce ..... Central Shop  
 Armando Reginelli ..... AHP  
 Luther Ross ..... District 1  
 Norwood Smith ..... District 1  
 Douglas M. Snow ..... District 6  
 Hugh Vance ..... District 1  
 Ervin C. Widner ..... District 9

### SEPTEMBER 1987

Louis Bramlett ..... District 8  
 J.H. Burton ..... District 10  
 Louie Conner ..... District 2  
 Wilbur F. Dycus ..... District 6  
 James M. Garrett ..... State Aid  
 William D. Milam ..... District 9  
 Ila Fay Sullivan ..... Computer

### OCTOBER 1987

George G. Derrick ..... District 3  
 James I. Fletcher, Jr. .... District 2  
 O. Robert Gann ..... AHP  
 Jimmy B. Key ..... District 6  
 Brooks O. Nichols ..... Chief Engineer  
 Leo Seal ..... District

# Around the Department

## BRIDGE DIVISION

Congratulations are in order to newlyweds Dale Loe and Donna Duncan who were married June 6. Dale is a bridge design supervisor who had been a bachelor for a long time. When the news was beginning to creep out that someone special was in the picture, there became competition in the office as to who would get the scoop first. Dale didn't volunteer the slightest bit of information which caused intense pressure to ask just the creative question that would provoke him to divulge the details of their relationship, the moment he (and they) decided to get married, and the date. If Dale had not been so happy over the plans, he probably would have hated to come to work and face the eager attention of everyone. Donna is a lovely person and Dale just said today, four months later, that it seemed they had been married always. Donna has a degree in psychology and works in the State Purchasing Department.

Leslie McSwain is another confirmed bachelor who has been employed in this division since 1974 as a structural detailer specialist. Just prior to October 10, we were able to find out all the details of his wedding to Joyce Spicer of Memphis. He had been traveling to Memphis on Friday afternoon for quite some time and no one in the office was the wiser. Joyce has a Masters degree in education and is a counselor with the Board of Education. She left the plans for their honeymoon up to Leslie with the statement, "I just want to be surprised." Leslie said he would tell her after the wedding that they were going to Nassua for a week. What a surprise! We can't wait to meet Joyce and wish her and Leslie well in their life together.

We want everyone to get acquainted with a new graduate in our office, Steve Lawrence. He is a native of Little Rock having graduated from Mills High School. Steve attended Louisiana Tech and has a civil engineering degree. He likes to fish and hunt and recently took a girl friend on the annual Spring River Canoe trip. They had a great time, only capsized once. Mike Coogan keeps a record of these feats.

Carl Fuselier, Damon Burney, and Ken Holmes were playing golf at Rebsamen Park recently. Carl hit a slice and broke the windshield of a truck passing by. The driver had just started on a fishing trip, so Carl made his day.

David and Lori Plugge invited us all to a cookout at their new home in Sandpiper Addition. Some of us didn't get to go and make a tour of the house and we expressed our regrets, but David felt we would rather stay home and watch a rerun of Moonlighting. The evening was a lot of fun and the food delicious.

Phil and Teri Brand have moved from Southwest Little Rock to Ginger Drive in Benton. They are really excited about their new home. Their children Gay Lynn, A.J., and Phillip are quickly getting acquainted and fitting right into their new neighborhood and schools.

Ross Wylie went to Jackson, Mississippi to see the Razorbacks play. He also received his 15 year service certificate and pin. Congratulations Ross.

Debbie Gross attended a star party out at Pinnacle Mountain where she saw the rings of Saturn, Jupiter and three of its moons, and several nebulas, and one shooting star. She also attended the U of A football game in Fayetteville and went sightseeing in Eureka

Springs while she was in Northwest Arkansas. Even though her parents live in Huntsville, she doesn't get to see much of that area since she moved to Little Rock.

Betsy Kimmel is staying in shape by running a mile everyday before work. Good for you Betsy!

Debbie Barclay recently transferred to Programming and Scheduling down the hall. We miss her but since she is so close, we can still share laughs and bits of news.

## CONSTRUCTION

John Howell has been the liaison between the Department and the Transportation Section of the 308th Missile Wing at Little Rock Air Force Base for two years. In recognition for his efforts he was presented with a plaque by Staff Sgt. Craig Forsbee of the 308th Missile Wing making him an Honorary "Missilier." The presentation was made on August 10th and came as a complete and pleasant surprise. John expressed his appreciation in a short speech that almost ended in tears. Afterwards refreshments were served in his honor.

On August 18, John was an invited guest at the Air Base when the 308th Wing was deactivated.



Staff Sgt. Craig Forsbee and John Howell

## COMPUTER SERVICES

Computer Services would like to welcome Ken Hulse, Kay Cornish and Karen Gibbs to the Division.

Ken, his wife Bonnie, and their two children, B.J., age 7, and Peggy, age 5, are newcomers to Arkansas as a result of his wife getting a position with the VA Hospital. Having lived on a 154-acre farm, the family is trying to adjust to apartment life. The kids are doing well, but Mom and Dad still have a case of claustrophobia. The family is looking forward to going camping in the Ozarks and floating the Arkansas waterways. Ken says they are also looking forward to rooting on the Travelers next season since they are big Cardinal fans.

Karen Gibbs is our COE student for this year. Karen attends J.A. Fair High and lives in Otter Creek. She plans to attend UALR next year and major in Computer Technology and minor in Photojournalism. As you might guess, Karen's favorite hobby is taking pictures.

Congratulations to Tony Ellis who was promoted to Technical Coordinator of Computer Services. He will be working with Kay Cornish, who

transferred from Personnel to fill the position of User Coordinator. We are looking forward to implementing new plans for the future with Tony and Kay in their new positions.

## MAINTENANCE

Brian Wright has transferred from the Maintenance Division to the Resident Engineer's Office in North Little Rock. Congratulations Brian. We hope you enjoy your new responsibilities. We said goodbye to Brian on August 6th and gave him a farewell party with cake and cookies.

To replace Brian, we welcome Herman Smith, who transferred from the N.L.R. Residency. He joined our Pavement Profiling Crew on September 10. Best of luck to you Herman. We are glad to have you with us.

There are two new employees and one re-employee that have recently come to work in our Heavy Bridge Maintenance Crews. Frazier Mosby of Hazen and Dennis Tribble of Tuckerman began to work with the crews on July 30. Schonnie Reid (Shawn) is from Newport and she came back to work with our HBM crew on September 24. We are glad to have all of you and know you will be a great asset to our office.

Roadside Development also has a new employee. His name is Jerry Vaughn. He is helping out with the landscaping. Welcome to the Department Jerry!

## MATERIALS & RESEARCH

Not to much news about Materials and Research's top deer slayers yet, but Ralph Hall, Engineer of M&R, has gotten a quick jump on us. Ralph bagged a nice 5-point mule deer in western Colorado with his bow and arrow. He accomplished this feat on September 4. To get an idea of how far ahead Ralph got a jump on us regular gun hunters, his deer was still in velvet. Also accompanying him to Colorado was Joe Barnett. Joe also got a nice mule deer buck.

As everybody can tell from Ray Gruver's attitude, he is on cloud nine. This is because of the birth of his first child, Raymond Aluvah Gruver III, also known as "Trey". Trey was born to Ray and Joyce on September 9 at Baptist Medical Center. Ray is still passing out cigars.



Raymond Aluvah Gruver III (Trey)

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

The 19th Annual Southeastern Transportation Geotechnical Engineer's Conference was held October 5-8. This conference was hosted by the AHTD's Geotechnical Section. Acting as Chairman of the event was Jake Clements, Head of the Geotechnical Section. Most phases of geotechnical work were covered along with new developments in the geotechnical fields. M&R appreciates the work Jake, Tyler Nicholson and other contributed to this conference.

Haden Cockrill, Area Materials Engineer, retired November 18 with 38 years of service to the Department. He plans to keep his wife busy working on country craft projects.

As promised in the last issue of the magazine more information about Charlene McClain and her retirement party is now available. As of last word, Charlene is relaxing and taking it easy. Her plans are to do as little as possible.



Ralph Hall, Charlene and B.F. McClain

M&R would like to welcome Bashar Qedan as an engineer for our Division. Bashar began work September 14 as a Civil Engineer I. Best of luck Bashar.

David Lumbert transferred from the soils lab to Public Affairs August 27. We will miss David, but feel that he will make great accomplishments in whatever he does.

John Shackelford, Geotechnical Drill Operator, along with the help of his wife, Julia, had a new baby girl delivered to them on August 21 at Memorial Hospital. Her name is Erica Mae Shackelford. Best of luck to the new family.



Erica Mae Shackelford

Larry Williams and his wife, Sunny, are the proud parents of Ashley Rosanne Williams. She ar-

rived September 17 at Baptist Medical Center. This is their first child and hopefully, won't be their last.



Ashley Rosanne Williams

Gary Neely has been added to the staff of M&R. He comes to us from District 3's construction field. Previously to that position he was an Advanced Construction Field Engineer. His interests, besides his dedicated work to the Highway Department, are hunting, fishing and an occasional night out. Good luck Gary, we look forward to working with you.

## PERSONNEL

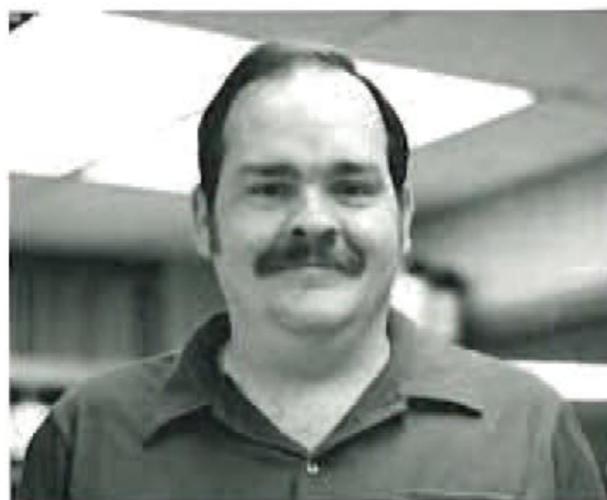
This article will likely be an addendum to a feature article in this magazine on the recent development of the Personnel Section becoming a Division. We are looking forward to working with the EEO and Insurance staff members.

In spite of walls coming down and desks being shuffled, we are still pleased with the changes taking place around us. Adding to these pleasure is our new employee, Kera Crowder. Kera, a former COE student is now a fulltime member of our staff. We also want to welcome our COE student for this season, Sonia Moore. Both young women are a delight to work with.

Personnel's loss is certainly Computer Services' gain. Kay Comish, the former Assistant Personnel Officer, has been promoted as Computer Services Coordinator. However, with the implementation of computers in the Personnel Division, we will still have the pleasure of working with her.

## PHOTOGRAMMETRY

Congratulations to Randy Boyd. Randy received his 10-year service certificate recently and we had cake and dip & chips to celebrate the occasion. We hope Randy will be here for at least another 10 years.



Randy Boyd

Bill Hoyt also deserves congratulations on the birth of his daughter, Adrienne Gabrielle, on August

2. She weighed 7 pounds and 13 ounces. Congratulations of Bill and his wife, Mary.

Sue Walls took her vacation in Branson, Missouri in August. While there, she went to see a performance by Ray Stevens. She really enjoyed Ray Stevens and said that this was the best vacation ever.



Ray Stevens and Sue Walls

## PLANNING

Three service awards were presented recently to personnel of the Technical Services Section. Ed Flanagan, Statistician, and Tommy Willcockson and Mark Frazier, Highway Inventory Technicians, have each completed ten years service with the Department. Congratulations men!



Section Head Jim Head and Edward Flanagan



Tommy Willcockson, Jim Head, and Mark Frazier

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

We welcome two new people to Technical Services. They are Julia Hart, who transferred from Hydraulics and Laura Moore from the front office.

Mildred Galt of Technical Services became a grandmother twice recently. Daniel Hilaire Rousseau, Jr. was born August 19, weighing 9 pounds to parents Ginger and Daniel Rousseau. Amanda Greer Galt was born September 1 weighing 7 pounds and 4 ounces to parents Debbie and Robert Galt. Best wishes and congratulations to all.



Daniel Hilaire Rousseau, Jr.



Amanda Greer Galt

Technical Services lost a familiar face when Polly Cloud left us for the easy living on Lake Norrell in September. She and her husband, Robert, are making a permanent residence there, after selling their home in the Salem community. We will all miss her and hope that she brings in the "biggest catch of all."

Joye Trimble transferred from Technical Services to Finance and Economics in August. And what is this we hear? Wedding bells!

## RADIO SECTION

Davin Webb and Melissa Russell were married October 3 on the river boat, "Spirit". The wedding party took a boat ride down the Arkansas River during the reception.

Everyone had a great time on this unusual trip.

They have a two-year old son, Brandon, who is the love of their lives. They will reside in North Little Rock.



Davin, Melissa and Brandon Webb

## RECORDS & REPRODUCTION

Congratulations to Tammy Croy who recently completed 5 years of service with AHTD. Her certificate and pin were presented by former Section Head Al Dunn, while present Section Head Roy Walden, looked on. Refreshments were served in her honor.



Al Dunn, Tammy Croy, Roy Walden

Roy and Brenda Walden are enjoying a beautiful 1988 Ford Crown Victoria they recently purchased. It is white with grey interior. They have been car shopping for quite some time and are well pleased with what they purchased.

We are happy to have Ellen Croy, a COE student, working in our Xerox Section. Ellen is a senior at McClellan High School. After graduation she plans to attend UCA where she will study to care for physically handicapped children. Her hobbies are softball and water skiing.

We welcome Kelly Edgin as a fulltime employee in our Map Sales Section. She worked with us as a COE student and as a summer employee.

Robert Cagle recently purchased a new Kawasaki KDX 200 motorcycle. It is a dirt bike and he is breaking it in early. He had already had two wrecks!

Ava and David Harding spent Labor Day weekend in Niceville, Florida visiting with their daughter and family, Donna and Bob Williams, T.J., Steven, and Nicholas.

Pat and Bud Latson sent an enjoyable vacation in Nashville, Gatlinburg and Smoky Mountains.

## SAFETY

Ten-year service awards were presented to Safety Inspection Officers Lyle Ward, Don Crain and Duane Sowell.



Lyle Ward, Don Crain and Duane Sowell

## STATE AID

John Kizer, our State Aid Engineer, recently received an Award of Appreciation from the County Judge Association of Arkansas in October at Eureka Springs for his untiring efforts in improving the quality of Rural Transportation in the State of Arkansas. Congratulations John!



John Kizer, State Aid Engineer

Jim Garrett, Civil Engineer, who worked as Staff Engineer in State Aid, retired on September 9. Born in Morrilton, Jim completed high school at Wilson, received his BSCE degree from the Citadel in South Carolina. After serving 3 years in the Army Corps of Engineer he was employed by the Department and was promoted into numerous field engineering positions at Marion, Lepanto and Osceola before transferring to the Central Office as a Federal Aid and Contracts Engineer.

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Jim and his wife, Margaret, have a daughter and two sons. Jim is very active in community theater and whether on stage, popping popcorn in a concession stand, or cutting off a finger while building sets, he rarely loses his sense of humor. Congratulations Jim and we wish you and long and happy retirement.



James Jr., Margaret and Jim Garrett with John Kizer

## TRAFFIC

We would like to welcome Clyde McCollum to the Sign Shop. He will be working with the Sign Crew. We would also like to welcome David Tolleson to the Traffic Division. He replaced Kevin Petray who moved to Fort Smith to work in the Resident Engineer's office. Good Luck Kevin!

There have been a couple of births lately. Mr. and Mrs. England of Cave City have a new baby girl, Kristy Ann born on July 20. and also June Rain is a new grandmother. Her daughter Renee, and husband Randy are the proud parents of Jeremy Alan Gray born on September 8 weighing 7 pounds and 10 ounces.



Kristy Ann England



Jeremy Alan Gray

Chester Jester has taken a trip to Utah to visit his brother Lester Jester. We hope it is an enjoyable trip!

## DISTRICT ONE

We have a new ceiling in the foyer of our District Headquarters thanks to Mike Smith and John Jones of the Bridge Crew. They did a fine job of installing the new ceiling tiles.



Smith and Jones

The District One Chapter of the Retirees Association held their annual fish fry on August 6 at the Newcastle Methodist Church. Approximately 80 members and guests attended and from what we heard a good time was had by all. This group now has a total of 87 members and continues to grow. With all the people retiring this year, they should really grow.



## Retirees Association Fish Fry

Our list of those retiring keeps on growing. As of this writing the following employees have recently retired:

Lloyd McFall, Rest Area Attendant in Crittenden County, retired on disability. Luther Ross, Single Axle Truck Driver from Crittenden County, retired with 19 years of service. Norwood Smith, Distributor Operator from Crittenden County retired with 21 years of service.

These three employees from Monroe County Maintenance Crew retired together. T.W. Nowlin, Area Headquarters Attendant, retired with 15 years of service. J.E. Hurst and Hugh Vance, Single Axle Truck Drivers, retired with 20 years of service. We wish all of these employees a long and happy retirement.

I guess all of the big game hunters will have to hold their stories until the next issue. At the time of this news deadline we had not heard of one deer being brought in, only the ones that got away. Better luck next time fellas!

## DISTRICT TWO

A lot of changes have been made in District Two and we will try to catch you up on all of them. Promoted to Maintenance Superintendent was James A. Allbritton and James Wolfe is the new Assistant Maintenance Superintendent. Tommy Simmons is the new Area Foreman for Jefferson County. Congratulations to all of these people.

Louie Conner, Multi-Axle Truck Driver in Jefferson County, recently retired after 16 years of service with the AHTD. His co-workers gave him a going-away party and gift. Good luck to you in the future Louie!



Louie Conner and Bill Johns

Shown in the picture is Johnny and Linda Linneman's new grandson, Kevin Linn Cathey, born September 9. The proud parents are Marty and Leslie Cathey of Rison. Grandfather Johnny is a Finish Carpenter on the District Bridge Crew.



Kevin Linn Cathey

Congratulations to Mary Baxter who became a grandmother for the second time. Her daughter, Donna, and husband, have a new baby boy.

Several employees received service awards this quarter. They were Waymon Graham, Lead Person in Ashley County, 25 years; Harold Smith, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish in Arkansas County, 20 years and receiving 15 year awards were A.G. Bullock, Station Attendant in Arkansas County; William O. Carpenter, Single Axle Truck Driver in Ashley County; and George Barfield, Lead Person in Ashley County.

Receiving 10 year awards were Johnny Linneman, District Bridge Crew; Debbie Pruitt, Station Attendant, Jefferson County; Wing Tichenor, District Maintenance Crew and Lloyd Owen from Lincoln County.

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Those receiving 5 year awards were Ernest Boykin, District Maintenance Crew; Melvine Reams, Arkansas County; Dewayne Peters, Cleveland County; and Roxanne Kames, Monticello RE Office. Congratulations to all of these employees.



Waymon Graham and Jim Briley



Harold Smith and Jim Briley



A.G. Bullock and Jim Briley



William O. Carpenter and Jim Briley



Johnny Linneman and Jim Briley



Debbie Pruitt and Jim Briley



Wing Tichenor and Jim Briley

## DISTRICT FOUR

Service awards for this quarter included Darrell Roper, Logan County Foreman, 20 years; Larry Elder, Bridge Crew Leader, Jerry Clemence, Sign Crew, and Don Griffin, District Material Supervisor, 15 years; Jerry Mantooth, Senior Mechanic, and Joe Shipman, RE office #41, 10 years. Receiving a 15 year award was David Lawson, Bridge Crew.



Darrell Roper and Allan Holmes



Larry Elder and Kim McDowell



Jerry Clemence and Don Griffin, 15 yr.,  
Joe Shipman, 10 yr.



Jerry Mantooth with George Lee



Kim McDowell with David Lawson

Laurie Chua, Stock Clerk, transferred to Roadway Design. Best wishes to Laurie and David, her husband, who is a student at UALR.



# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

We want to welcome our new seasonal workers at the District Office. They are Sherrill Hudgens and Laura Wagner. They are both students at WestArk Community College in Ft. Smith, majoring in business.

George Lee, Ed McLaughlin, Paul Banzhaf and Jim Taylor played in the Ft. Smith Have-A-Heart golf tournament for the American Heart Association. They weren't the winners this year but they say they were much improved over last year.

Leo Seal, Maintenance Job Superintendent, retired at the end of September with more than 25 years of service with the AHTD. His crew presented him with a cake, and a rod and reel for many years of enjoyment during his retirement. Best wishes Leo!



**Leo Seal (center) and crew**

On July 1, the Polk County crew honored retiring foreman, Jearl Baker with a retirement party. They presented him with a remote-control trolling motor in appreciation for his dedicated service and friendship. Many friends and fellow workers stopped in to wish him well on his retirement. We will miss you Jearl!

James Golden of the Polk County crew is very proud of his new grandson, D.J. No picture this issue but maybe next time.

R.C. Walker, District Permit Officer, is also a new grandpa. Ashley Marie Arendall was born September 21 weighing 11 pounds and 7 ounces. This isn't his first grandchild, but you'd think so, as proud as he is.

Lynn Priddy of the Polk County crew recently completed training in South Carolina for the National Guard.

Andrea Roberts, daughter of Gene and Rene Roberts; Dillion Harris, son of Troy and Gale Harris; Jason Richmond, son of Gary and Jane Richmond; and David Henry, son of Hershall and Barbara Henry were chosen as the queen and kings of their classed at Acorn Public Schools for the Harvest Festival. Andrea won for the first grade and David Henry for the 12th grade. Each class sold chances on items and did numerous things to raise money for their class.

Bobby Stone, son of David and Rita Stone, won a blue ribbon at the Polk County Fair for his art work. He is in the 1st grade at Hatfield Elementary.

David and Darin Williams, sons of Nan Williams, District Receptionist, entered their cross-bred heifers in the Sebastian County Fair. David won a blue ribbon on his calf, April, and Grand Champion. Darin also won a blue ribbon on his calf, Burnt Toast, and Reserve Grand Champion.

Darin entered several items in the Horticulture Division and won blue ribbons on all. David entered his wood crafted duck and won a blue ribbon.

We want to welcome Shirley Sheets to the District Storeroom as our new Stock Clerk.

Time marches on! Two people from the Springdale RE office attended their 10-year high school reunion this summer. Sandy Newberry, Construction Aide, and Teresa Maze, Inspector, both graduated from Springdale High School in 1977. Teresa really hasn't changed much since then and we were unable to obtain a photo of Sandy to share with you.



**Teresa Maze at Graduation 10 years ago.**

Dean Nichols has moved on to newer and better things and left the Springdale office to become Assistant Resident Engineer at Alma. They appear to be working him hard. We sure do miss him but wish him the best of luck.

The RE office in Alma has two new employees. They are Tim Briscoe and Mike Williams. Tim is a Construction Helper and Mike is a Senior Construction Aide. We are proud to have them working with us. They were both recently married, Tim on September 25 and Mike on August 22. Congratulations!

There have been six birthdays celebrated in our office. They were John Sharum, July 19; Melissa Lunsford, August 16; Vicki Moore, August 24; Clinton Slate, September 27; Mike Williams, October 15; and Steve Glover, October 27. We wish each of these a Happy Birthday!

Ernie Westfall, Assistant Resident Engineer, has been promoted to Resident Engineer in the Pine Bluff Residency. We gave Earnie a going away party and his girls were able to share in the fun.

We welcome Dean Nichols as our new Assistant RE in the Alma office.



**Ernie Westfall and daughters**

## DISTRICT FIVE

We would like to welcome Linda Berry to our office as receptionist. She transferred to the District Office from the Rice Residency. Linda had been with us as Field Clerk since June 1986, so we know she is going to be nice to have around.

Filling the Field Clerk position is Carolyn Crafton. Carolyn and her husband, Larry, have one son, Jason, who is 9. Her hobbies are collecting antiques and quilting. We are glad to have you Carolyn!



**Carolyn Crafton**

District Five is losing some of its long-term and best employees. We regret having to say goodbye to them but wish them well and hope they'll come by to see us now and then. As of this writing the following employees have decided to retire: V.J. (Buddy) Butler, Senior Construction Party Chief; Verlon Robertson, Senior Inspector; S.L. Ivy, Independence County Area Headquarters Attendant; W.K. Martin, Single Axle Truck Driver/Mower Operator for the Independence County Crew; Bill McCullum, IZARD County Crew Leader and Orville Elumbaugh, Lowboy/Float Truck Driver.



**Orville and Alice Elumbaugh at retirement party**

We have some new births to report in District Five. Eric Anthony Robinson was born July 30 weighing 6 pounds and 2 ounces. His parents are Teresa and Richard Anthony. Anthony is a Single Axle Truck Driver/Mower Operator on the Jackson County Crew.

This happy looking family is Aaron George Cantu and his parents, Angie and Ronnie. Aaron weighed 6 pounds and 10 ounces and arrived August

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

23. Angie is back at work as a Construction Helper in the Swink Residency.

Also pictured is Mitchell Hubbard who is 16 months old. He is the grandson of Jessie Hubbard, District Station Attendant Supervisor. His mother's name is Carol. This is Jessie's first grandchild and he is a typically proud grandpa.



**Eric Anthony Robinson**



**Angie, Ronnie and Aaron George Cantu**



**Mitchell Hubbard**

## DISTRICT FIVE SERVICE AWARDS



**Lyndal Walts and B.E. Hill, 30 years**



**Jim Chaney and Chester King, 25 years**



**J.R. Chaney and A.L. Coles, 25 years**



**Jim Henley and Floyd Lancaster, 20 years**



**R.W. Wray, 20 years**

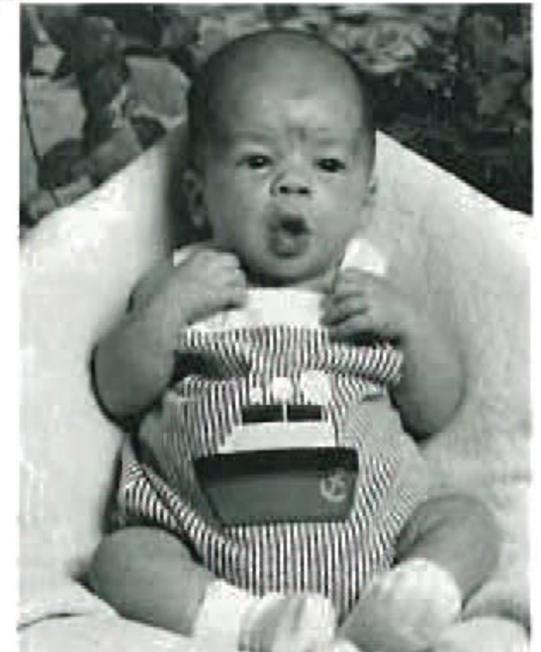


**W.E. Hughes, 20 years**

## DISTRICT SIX

We would like to express our sympathy to the family of Hershel Harrison of Sheridan who died of heat exposure while performing duties for AHTD on July 29.

This adorable little boy is the son of Jimmy and Gail Stinson. His name is John Jacob Stinson, who was born July 6, weighing 6 pounds and 9 ounces. Jimmy is our Electrician here at the District Headquarters.



**John Jacob Stinson**

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

This little doll is Tara Winkler born May 22. She is the first grandchild of William and Kaye Winkler of Haskell. Tara was born to their eldest daughter Rhonda. Grandpa Winkler works out of our Benton Area Headquarters as a Single Axle Truck Driver/Mower Operator. Congratulations on a beautiful grandbaby.



**Tara Janette Winkler**

Yolanda Finley, daughter of William and Kaye Winkler of Haskell, will be leaving this October to join her husband who is stationed in Mannheim, Germany in the U.S. Army. We would like to wish Yolanda a safe and happy trip. William works out of the Benton Area Headquarters.



**Yolanda Finley**

Steve and Nancie Allen are the proud parents of another son, David Wesley Allen, born August 24 weighing 8 pounds and 3 ounces. David has a brother who is very proud of him, John Lee, who is 9. Looks like the Allen household will be full of activity for awhile.



Eleven months ago, Darrel and Linda Sutton were given these four beautiful children. Their names are Heather, age 15, Jason, age 12, Timmy, age 10, and Trisha, age 9. Darrel had to make a few alterations on the house, but as of July 21, these children legally became Sutton's. Don't they make a beautiful family. Darrel works out of the Malvern Maintenance Headquarters.



**The Sutton Family**

These two girls are the daughters of Wayne Harvey who works out of RE #65. They both played softball at Little Oaks and their teams came in 3rd. Heather is 11 years of age and Amber is 8. Heather played shortstop and Amber played first base. Good looking girls Wayne, of course, we know Debbie had a lot to do with their good looks.



**Heather (above) and Amber (below)**



This little guy is Donna Garrison's son, Brannon. This is his first year of T-ball and he stayed busy just trying to figure it all out. Another first for Brannon is his first year of school, Kindergarten at Oak Brook. Donna works out of RE #65.



**Brannon Garrison**

Donna also has a daughter named Sha who has been very active this summer with softball. Her team won the State Championship Class A with an overall record of 57 wins and 10 losses. In addition to sports, Sha was accepted into UALR's Gifted Math Program. Sha is a student at Sylvan Hills Junior High and is 12 years old.



**Sha Garrison**

I am sure no one would ever guess who this sweetheart is. He looks just like his Grandmother, well he may not look like her, but he is as sweet as she is. This is Jesse Tyler Delling, age 17 months, grandson of Barbara Harrell of RE #65. Grandma didn't know that they made little boys to be as sweet as this little one is.



# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Bernie Gaiser, Saline County Area Foreman, has a whole family of rodeoers. His daughter, Lisa Hudson is a tough competitor in the Barrel Racing Event. His son-in-law, Troy Hudson, appears to be getting a good grip on the Bull Riding Event and another tough competitor in the Gaiser clan is Neal Gaiser. He is shown below in the Bareback Riding event.



Lisa Hudson



Troy Hudson



Neal Gaiser

## DISTRICT SEVEN

We welcome Nina Ingram as our new District Receptionist. Nina is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H.L. Sommers. She is married to Rusty Ingram who is self-employed. They have three daughters, Casey, age 9; Kelly, age 8, and Kayla, age 5. She enjoys reading, volleyball, swimming and other outdoor activities. Welcome Nina!

This lovely young lady is Greta Susanne Carlson, age 3, daughter of Richie and Debbie Carlson and the granddaughter of Mary Carlson, Field Clerk in the Myer's Residency. She is displaying trophies won as first runner-up in the Little Miss Tiny Tot Contest held in Hampton recently. Congratulations Greta!



Greta Susanne Carlson

## DISTRICT EIGHT

The Pope County Fair was held in Russellville recently. Our District 8 family had several winners in the livestock show. Matt Young, age 12, showed the Grand Champion Market Steer. It weighed 1085 pounds. He also had the Reserve Champion Fitter heifer.

Steven Young, age 15, had the Grand Champion Registered Fitter Heifer. Steven also won the Showmanship Contest. Matt and Steven are the sons of Assistant District Engineer Chip Young.

Jennifer Buchanan, age 11, had the Grand Champion Market Hog, which weighed 243 pounds.

Jessica Buchanan, with a little help from big sister Jennifer, showed the Grand Champion Commercial Fitter Heifer. Jessica is 6 years old.

Josh Buchanan, age 7, won Grand Champion with his Open Registered Simmental Heifer. Jennifer, Josh, and Jessica are the children of Assistant Store-room Supervisor Kenneth Buchanan. They belong to the Sequoyah Kids 4-H Club in Dover.

Charles Pellham won the Reserve Champion Commercial Heifer. Charles is the son of Lois and Oscar Pellham. Oscar recently retired from our District Wide Crew as a Motor Patrol Operator.



Matt Young



Steven Young



Jennifer Buchanan (right) with Ian Garrett, buyer of Grand Champion Market Hog



Jennifer and Jessica Buchanan

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS



Josh Buchanan

## DISTRICT NINE

Congratulations are extended to Sandy and James Massengale who were married on July 11. Sandy is a Single Axle Truck Driver/Mower Operator in the District Wide Maintenance Crew. Best wishes to you both.

The District Maintenance Crew gave E.C. "Buster" Widner a retirement party on September 24. Buster was Job Superintendent and was with AHTD for over 35 years. The employees of District 9 wish Buster many years of happiness and good health.



Buster Widner

District 9 has a couple little cuties to brag about! Jack Drewry, Dozer Operator in the District Maintenance Crew, is proud Grandpa to Aaron Thomas Anderson who was born August 28 weighing 7 pounds and 7 ounces.



Aaron Thomas Anderson

Also, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry L. Smith are showing off their precious new granddaughter, Kelcey Lynette Smith, born September 17 weighing 6 pounds and 12 ounces. Kelcey's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Smith, and her great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Troy Martin. Jerry is Dozer Operator with the District Maintenance Crew and Troy Martin is a retiree from Newton County. Congratulations to both families.



Kelcey Lynette Smith

Navy Seaman Recruit Brian D. Leach, son of Roy D. and Jewell F. Leach of Rogers, has completed recruit training at the Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Illinois.

During Brian's eight-week training cycle, he studied general military subjects designed to prepare him for further academic and on-the-job training in one of the Navy's 85 basic fields.

Brian is currently in Boiler Technical School and upon completion of this school in November, he will go to his permanent duty station in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.



Brian D. Leach

Brian is a 1983 graduate of Rogers High School and joined the Navy in March 1987. Brian's father, Roy, is Single Axle Truck Driver/Mower Operator in the Garfield Maintenance Area Headquarters.

Congratulations and best wishes!

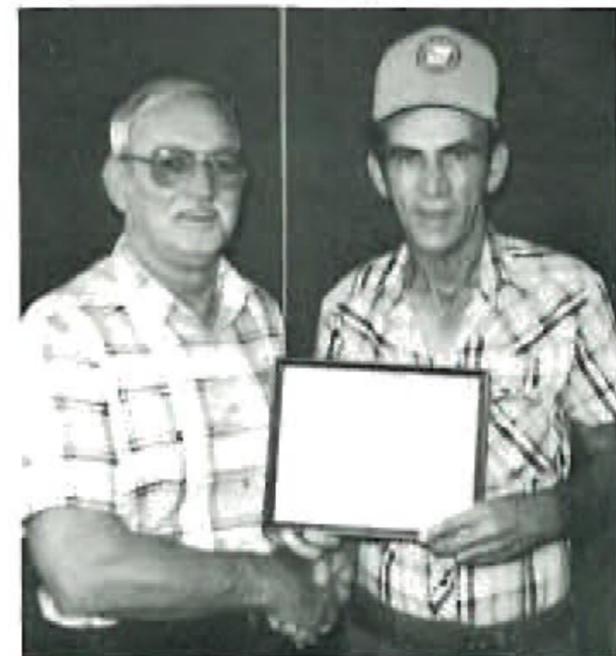
## DISTRICT TEN

We are proud to announce that Dad survived the delivery! Steve Leath, Office Manager, said there were moments when he had doubts, but with the encouragement and moral support of his wife, Vera, he pulled through fine. Steve and Vera are the proud parents of a beautiful baby girl, Jennica Joan, born July 13 weighing 8 pounds and 5 ounces. As you can see she is absolutely precious. Congratulations Steve and Vera!



Jennica Joan Leath

Service awards were presented to several employees in District 10. Pictured are recipients of 20 year awards and we offer them our congratulations along with B.D. Morgan, 15 years; Dub Cole, Stanley Wright, and Jerry Easley, 10 years. We wish all of you many more years with the Department.



Charles Hesselbein and W.O. Vance

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS



Charles Hesselbein and Olin Ridge



Hesselbein and William Jackson



Hesselbein and Jesse Doughty



Hesselbein and June Troxel

Since we all know this was a major accomplishment for Charles Hesselbein, we offer a special congratulations on his receiving his 25 year service award. We all knew you could do it. Congratulations.



Charles Hesselbein and DE B.J. Barnett

A gathering of the minds? Well, not exactly! This is the Osceola Resident Engineer crew pictured at a dinner held in honor of Frank Shepherd who resigned recently. Burl Hudson replaces Frank as Resident Engineer. Congratulations Burl on the promotion and we look forward to working with you.



Osceola RE Office

The shop is quieter without one of our long time friends there to stir up a little mischief from time to time. Chuck Franks retired recently and it seems a little easier for the other mechanics to stay out of trouble. (Would you know anything about that Chuck?) Congratulations on your retirement - wish you would stay another 28+ years.



Chuck Franks

**Merry Christmas  
to all  
AHTD  
employees**





**Arkansas State Highway  
& Transportation Department**

Post Office Box 2261  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203

Return Postage Guaranteed

BULK RATE  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Little Rock, Ark. 72203  
Permit No. 2556

