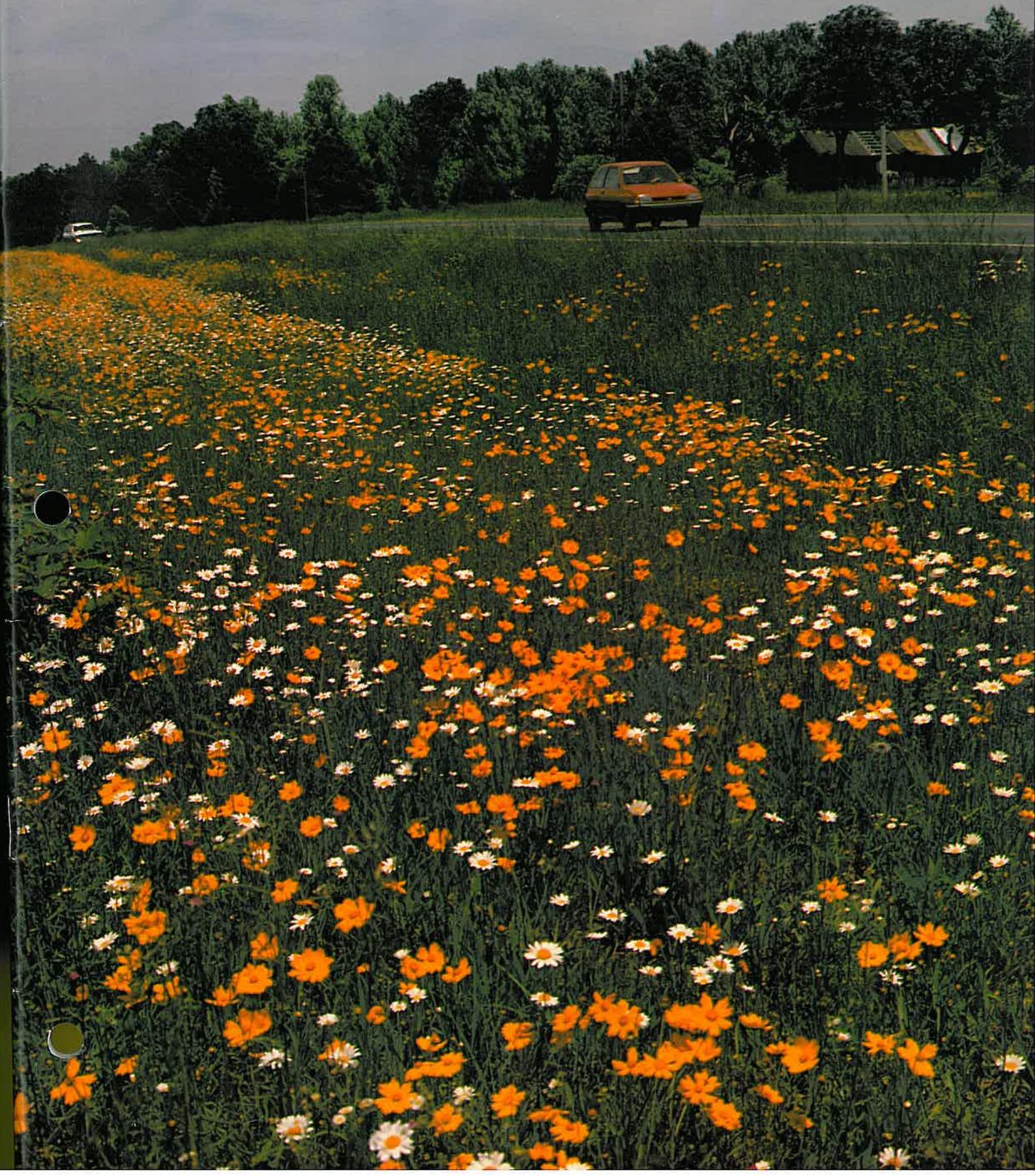


Arkansas Highways

SPRING 1994



Director's Message

During the history of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department many changes have taken place which have allowed the Department to function more efficiently. Technological improvements have added new dimensions to our methods of operation. Organizational restructuring has strengthened our operational capabilities.

Yet, one thing that remarkably remains relatively stable is the number of people employed by the Department even though the responsibilities of the Department have increased significantly. While technology and organization restructuring have allowed us to accomplish "more with less," we could not make this claim except for the dedicated, hard-working employees who have been willing to meet the many challenges which face the Department.

A major area of concern is the "leveling off" of our revenue. The primary funding source for the Department, motor fuels taxes, is being adversely affected by the more fuel efficient cars and trucks. This has created the necessity to do some "belt-tightening" so the Highway Improvement Program can continue at its present pace and so we can continue to provide appropriate employee benefits.

Obviously, we have many challenges ahead of us. However, with the leadership and support of the Highway Commission and the dedication of our employees to accomplish the necessary work, I'm confident we can work together and meet the needs of the Department.



DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION



ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

SPRING 1994

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



L.W. "BILL" CLARK
CHAIRMAN



BOBBY HOPPER
VICE CHAIRMAN



HERBY BRANSCUM, JR.
MEMBER



JOHN "M" LIPTON
MEMBER



J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD
MEMBER

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, Human Resources and Public Affairs Division, P.O. Box 2261, Room 1002, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-2261. ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS is distributed free to the public upon request and to all Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department employees.

COMPOSITION & LAYOUT
Carolyn Johnson

WRITER
Randy Ort

PHOTOGRAPHER
John Jackson



ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS
IS PRINTED ON
RECYCLED PAPER
WITH SOYBEAN INK

CONTENTS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

FEATURES

Dan Flowers Takes Oath of Office As New Highway Director	2
Roger Almond Named Deputy Director and Chief Engineer Steve Teague Chosen Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning Ralph Hall Selected Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations	3
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Jack Holt, Jr.: Summer Employment With AHTD	4
Commissioners On The Go	6
Approval of National Highway System Essential to Arkansas	8
Arkansas Gets Tough On Underage DUI	10
National Quality Assurance Workshop Held in Hot Springs	11
Transportation Law Seminar Conducts "Mock" Seminar	12
Quality Management Initiative Expanded To Districts	13

OTHER ARTICLES

MADD Poster Contest	13	Director, Chief Engineer, and Asst. Chief Engineer for Operations Retire.....	18
Saved by the Belt.....	14	AHTD Mailbag.....	19
Henry Ward Selected Recipient of "Service to the Citizens Award"	15	Central Office Service Awards.....	20
Dedications	16	Around the Department.....	21
Public Hearing.....	17	AHTD Outdoors.....	36

COVER PHOTO: *Highway 65 south of Choctaw, Van Buren County*
BACK COVER: *Interstate 40 Bridge crossing the Mississippi River, Crittenden County*
Photographs by John Jackson

Dan Flowers Takes Oath of Office As New Highway Director

Dan Flowers, of North Little Rock, took the Oath of Office as Director of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department January 3. Arkansas Supreme Court Chief Justice Jack Holt, Jr. administered the oath at a ceremony in the AHTD Central Office Auditorium. Flowers' wife, Sara, his children, Lea, Jennifer, and Matthew, and his mother, Mrs. Hollis Flowers, were on hand for the ceremony.

"It's an exciting time to be involved in transportation," Flowers said. "The mobility and economy of this country are dependent on transportation, and highways are the backbone of the nation's transportation system."

Flowers, 47, is the 18th person to serve as Director of the Department since the position was created in 1933, and the youngest to serve since the adoption of the Mack-Blackwell Amendment in 1953. He was selected by the Arkansas State Highway Commission October 28, 1993 to succeed Maurice Smith upon his retirement. Flowers had been the Assistant Director since January 4, 1988.

Flowers is active on the regional and national levels in the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO), American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and the Transportation Research Board (TRB). He is Chairman of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Design and serves on the AASHTO Standing Committee on Administration and is their representative on the Standing Committee on Quality. He was selected as one of four state highway officials nationwide to accompany Federal Highway Administration officials and industry representatives on a recent European tour to review innovative contracting practices.

"The first job I had after high school was with the Highway Department," Flowers told those gathered for the ceremony. "I appreciate having been involved with Commissioners, Directors, and staff members. They helped me tremendously over the years. I want everyone to know what a supportive Commission we have. We are responsible for one of the largest highway systems in the country, and it will be up to us as a team to meet the demands of the future. I look forward to serving as Director."



Arkansas Supreme Court Chief Justice Jack Holt, Jr. (left) administers the Oath of Office to Dan Flowers (right), the new Director of Highways & Transportation.



Left to right: Lea, Matthew, Sara, Dan, Mrs. Hollis, and Jennifer Flowers.

Flowers began his career as a summer employee in Batesville where he worked four summers. Upon graduation from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville in June 1969 with a degree in Civil Engineering, he entered the engineering orientation program. He was then assigned to the Planning Division as a Planning Engineer. He has worked as Assistant Resident Engineer (Searcy), Resident Engineer (Huntsville and Rogers), Assistant Construction Engineer (Little Rock), and Assistant District Engineer and District Engineer of District Six. Prior to being named Assistant Director, he served as State Construction Engineer and Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations.

Flowers is a registered professional engineer, a member of the University of Arkansas' Academy of Civil Engineering, the Mack-Blackwell Transportation Center's Professional Advisory Board and the Little Rock Engineer's Club.

Roger Almond Named Deputy Director and Chief Engineer

Roger Almond was promoted to the position of Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, effective March 17, 1994.

Almond is a graduate civil engineer from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. He began his career with the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department in April 1968 as an engineer-in-training. His first 11 years were spent in various positions in the Planning and Research Division. He held the positions of Section Head of Programming and Scheduling, Assistant District Engineer and District Engineer of District Six, Division Head of Materials and Research, Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning, and Chief of Administration and Planning. He is a registered professional engineer.

A native of St. Charles and currently residing in Bryant, Almond and his wife Jean have a daughter Rachel, a son David, and a grandson Blake.



Roger Almond
Chief Engineer



Steve Teague
Chief of Administration and Planning

Steve Teague Chosen Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning

Steve Teague, former Division Head of Programs and Contracts, was chosen by the Arkansas State Highway Commission as Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning.

Teague is a graduate civil engineer from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. He began his career with the Department in February 1971. He spent eight years in the Planning and Research Division attaining the position of Section Head of Program Planning. In 1980 he transferred to Section Head of Programming and Scheduling. The remainder of his career has been in the Programs and Contracts Division where he attained the position of Division Head in 1985. He is a registered professional engineer.

Teague, a native of Malvern, currently resides in Little Rock with his wife Nell and daughter Rachel.

Ralph Hall Selected As Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations

Ralph Hall has been named Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations effective May 19. Hall, District Six Engineer, was selected for the position by the Commission to replace Calvin Peavy who is retiring with 35 years service.

Hall began his career with the Department in March 1972 following graduation from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a degree in Civil Engineering. He has served as Assistant Resident Engineer (West Memphis), Resident Engineer (Forrest City and North Little Rock), Assistant District Six Engineer, Staff Construction Engineer, and Materials and Research Engineer. He is a registered professional engineer.

A native of Pocahontas, Hall and his wife Ann have one daughter Kathryn.



Ralph Hall
Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations

Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Jack Holt, Jr. **Summer Employment with AHTD**

After administering the oath of office to Director Dan Flowers, Judge Jack Holt, Jr. reminisced about his summer employment with the Department in 1945. He and his friend Richard Hart worked on a survey crew in northwest Arkansas. An account of their experience follows:

These were war years and there was an extreme shortage of men. For this reason it was rather easy for youngsters to gain employment with the Arkansas State Highway Department. Being rather venturesome, Richard and I decided that we would like to make our fortunes with the Department and in particular work outside of the city. As a result, we were deployed with several other youngsters from Little Rock to Van Buren, Arkansas to work on a survey crew. This was big-time since we lived in a motel, the Oaks Motel with semi-private rooms, as I recall, and a shower. Our source of transportation was a World War II surplus weapon carrier and a field car complete with synthetic tubes and tires.

Our primary assignment was to survey right of way on Highway 71 South and also to survey a line between 71 toward Booneville. We were a multi-talented group. We were able to rotate our jobs between being a stake-man or a rod-man to clearing the line with kizer blades, which I commonly refer to as brush hooks. I had forgotten the name of the hooks until Dan made



Richard Hart (left) and Judge Jack Holt, Jr. on a recent fishing trip.

mention of them as kizer blades during his acceptance speech.

I feel certain that our experiences were quite similar to Dan's. As far as work was concerned, we had plenty of problems with poison ivy, hornets' nests, and on occasion wild ginnys hiding in the bushes. As mentioned, our primary source of transportation was the old weapon carrier with synthetic tires and tubes, and it seems we had two or three flat tires a week, broken radiator belts, etc.

Aside from this hardship, there were several nice young ladies in Van Buren, and as I recall one father owned a frozen food plant. We were kept well-stocked with ice cream, strawberries and the like.

We were there in August when the war with Japan was declared over, and VJ Day declared. Since the troops were at Fort Chaffee, Fort Smith was a sight to behold; dancing in the streets, whatever. We were unable to locate our foreman in all the confusion. I called District Headquarters and they in turn called Little Rock. They advised us to find the man and when we did, come on back to Little Rock. However, for some reason the vehicle was to be left in a motorpool located in Stuttgart. Dick and I found our superintendent and took off in late evening, only to arrive in Stuttgart at three or four in the morning. We checked our vehicle in and went to the Stuttgart bus station to catch a

orning bus out. I remember that the most comfortable seats in the station were a pair of shoeshine chairs, so Dick and I each took a chair and attempted to catnap until the bus arrived; only to find that the big problem was with the Stuttgart mosquito. Being as we are both survivors though, we weathered that storm, came on back to Little Rock, and I guess either

subliminally or otherwise decided that we were not skilled in the areas of our summer employment, and even though we had a good sense of humor, thought it might behoove us to think in terms of another career field.

Actually it was a lot of fun and the next year I worked again with the Highway Department out of Little Rock hauling asphalt in a

bridge crew. However, we were jerked off the bridge crew when one of our boys fell off the bridge on the old upper Hot Springs highway and received a compound fracture of his ankle. So you might say I was a two-year letterman as far as the Highway Department is concerned. I guess the rest is history*.

*Judge Holt was Chief Assistant Attorney General of Arkansas in 1980-81 and served briefly as Attorney General in 1982. He has served as Chief Justice of the Arkansas Supreme Court since January 2, 1985.

Richard Hart, prior to his retirement on June 1, 1987 was the Chief Administrative Officer of InterFirst Corporation, a large bank holding company in Texas. He presently serves as the head of the statewide trust department for Bank One, Dallas, Texas.



Photograph courtesy of Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/Rick McFarland

Judge Holt, left, greets Sara Flowers, right, wife of Director Dan Flowers, second from left, and Jane Wilson, Division Head of Human Resources and Public Affairs, before the Oath of Office ceremony.

Commissioners On The Go...



Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, at podium, talks about the importance of Interstate 69 for Arkansas at a meeting in El Dorado January 7. The Commission also attended another I-69 meeting in Helena that same day.



Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper at the retirement reception for Maurice Smith. Hopper also met with the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce February 2.



Chairman Bill Clark, left, and Commissioner John "M" Lipton, right, participated in a town meeting at Woodlawn January 13.



Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield discusses options available to the Delta Parkway Task Force February 3 in Helena.



Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr. was the guest speaker for the Conway Lions Club January 4.



Commissioner John "M" Lipton addressed the Sesame Club of Fordyce January 20 and spoke to the Horatio Lions Club December 7.

In addition to bid lettings, motor carrier hearings, and Commission meetings, Commissioners maintain an exacting schedule representing the citizens of Arkansas. Other activities not pictured included: Chairman Clark met with the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, Commissioner Branscum dedicated a new gymnasium at Bigelow, Commissioners Branscum and Benafield attended a meeting with community leaders in Swifton, Commissioner Benafield also spoke to the Corning Chamber of Commerce, and Commissioner Lipton met with officials in El Dorado, Warren, and Texarkana. Commission members also attended the Central Office service award presentation and their respective District service award events.



State Senator Mike Todd, far left, and State Representative Tim Wooldridge, far right, were the hosts for a meeting with community leaders in Paragould February 8. Commissioner Benafield and Director Dan Flowers addressed the group and answered questions.

Approval of National Highway System Essential to Arkansas

Passage of the National Highway System (NHS) by Congress will improve the State's economy by creating jobs and promoting business development as well as interstate commerce, according to L.W. "Bill" Clark, Chairman of the Arkansas State Highway Commission.

Speaking at a news conference sponsored by the Department and The Road Information Program (TRIP) February 23, Clark said "failure to approve the NHS could be catastrophic for our highway system. Without it our transportation system and funding will become fragmented."

Consisting of approximately 158,000 miles nationally, the NHS will include the Interstate Highway System and many other principle routes. In Arkansas 2,643 miles are proposed for the NHS.

"The routes that will comprise the NHS are essentially in place. Although some routes will be elevated to Interstate standards, the design for most highways will be appropriate for expected traffic," Clark added. "This will include widening some highways to four lanes. Others will be provided with passing lanes and some two-lane routes will be upgraded to include wider, paved shoulders. Safety improvements will also re-



Arkansas State Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, left, explains the significance of the National Highway System to Jake Sandlin, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette reporter.

main a top priority."

Bill Outlaw, communications director for TRIP, a non-profit transportation research group based in Washington, D.C., said the NHS "will improve travel connections between rural and urban areas, as well as upgrade connections between neighboring states."

"The NHS will create jobs in the highway construction industry, which is one of the largest contributors to Arkansas' economy," according to D.B. Hill, III, immediate past president of the Associated General Contractors of Arkansas.

Leonard Dunn, president of the Arkansas Good Roads/Transportation Council, pointed out that the NHS will be beneficial to the trucking and agricultural industries in Arkansas as well.

"Our highways also provide the lifelines for the farm-to-market deliveries that are so vital to the agricultural industry in Arkansas," Dunn said. "Arkansas is also a major trucking center and trucking is an important segment of our state's economy."

Kelley Erstine, director of governmental affairs for the Arkansas Chamber of Commerce, described

transportation routes as “the thread that tie together markets, hospitals, schools and governments. Good transportation is the key element in maintaining and improving the economic viability and social well being of an area.”

The NHS concept was enacted by Congress in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA), with the requirement that the final system be designated by September 30,

1995. The U.S. Department of Transportation presented the proposed NHS to Congress on December 9, 1993. The House Surface Transportation Subcommittee began hearings on the NHS in February.

If Congressional approval is not received by the September 1995 deadline, funding for the NHS or Interstate improvements will not be allocated to the states. This would represent a setback for

transportation, commerce and trade.

“NHS designation is imperative for continued development of multi-state corridors. Projects are underway on many of the NHS routes in Arkansas. Without the system designation, the future of continued funding is uncertain,” Clark said.



**Bill Outlaw, Communications Director
The Road Information Program**



AHTD Director Dan Flowers, left, with Bill Outlaw, right.



**Leonard Dunn, President
Arkansas Good Roads/Transportation Council**



**D.B. Hill, III, Immediate Past President
Associated General Contractors of Arkansas**



**Kelley Erstine, Director of Governmental Affairs
Arkansas Chamber of Commerce**



Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark explains Arkansas' new Underage DUI Law at a news conference February 22.

Arkansas Gets Tough On Underage DUI

An Arkansas teenager who drinks even one beer and gets behind the wheel of a motor vehicle could face tough new penalties including the loss of driving privileges, according to L.W. "Bill" Clark, Chairman of the State Highway Commission.

"Act 863 of 1993, the Underage DUI Law, sets much tougher standards for presuming that a young person is under the influence of alcohol," Clark said. "If you are under age 21 and are charged with DUI, you won't get off easy," he added.

Clark was joined by other members of the Commission, law enforcement officers, representatives of other state agencies and private

organizations at a news conference in Little Rock February 22 to announce a public information campaign designed to inform young drivers and their parents about the effects of the new law.

The law states that anyone under age 21 can be arrested for DUI if they register as little as .02 percent on a blood alcohol content (BAC) test. The BAC for drivers over age 21 is .10 percent. The penalties for conviction are stiff. Fines for a first offense can be as high as \$500. Violators will be subject to performing court ordered public service, attending an alcohol/driver education program and having their driver's license suspended for up to four months.

The Highway and Transportation Department developed a brochure to inform parents and young drivers about the law. The brochures are being distributed through the Health Department, Department of Education, Department of Finance and Administration, Arkansas Sheriff's Association, Arkansas State Police, city police departments and colleges and universities.

Radio and television public service announcements were also produced in cooperation with the Arkansas Broadcasters Association (ABA). The ABA working with its member stations throughout state, is providing free air time for the announcements.

National Quality Assurance Workshop Held in Hot Springs

Thirty-six participants representing seven state highway and transportation departments, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), engineering consultants, and construction industry officials met in Hot Springs December 6-10, 1993, to discuss quality control and quality assurance practices in the highway construction industry.

The National Quality Initiative Expert Task Group was created to develop a guide for sampling and testing programs compatible with the AASHTO Quality Control/Quality Assurance Specification and Implementation Guide. The guide was adopted by the AASHTO Subcommittee on Construction in August 1993.

"I think we all realize that the road building industry needs to have quality control consistent with the emphasis on quality that is prevalent in much of today's world," AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Calvin Peevy told the group in opening comments. "The public doesn't have time for a list of excuses. We must recognize our customers and respond to their demands for quality."

The development and preservation of a high-quality highway system requires a close partnership between all parties involved - federal, state and industry. This partnership led to the development of The National Transportation Policy on the Quality of Highways

in late 1992. The National Policy was the precursor to the AASHTO Quality Control/Quality Assurance Specification and Implementation Guide.

Since the AASHTO guide focused on specifications, there was a need for sampling and testing guides for states that are developing quality control/quality assurance specifications. "That is the job that has been assigned to this workshop," Peevy told the participants.

According to Peevy, the week-long workshop produced positive results. A draft report was prepared which is currently being finalized. Another meeting will be held in Little Rock in May to incorporate the sampling and testing procedures into the AASHTO Quality Control/Quality Assurance Specification and Implementation Guide.



AHTD Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Calvin Peevy addresses the participants of the workshop on Quality Assurance Procedures for Highway Construction.



FHWA Division Administrator Bill Richardson also spoke to the participants of the workshop.



Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr., third from left, reviews procedures with Treeca Dyer, AHTD Staff Attorney, second from left, and attorneys James Duckett, left, and Don Smith, right.

Transportation Law Seminar Conducts "Mock" Hearing

The Arkansas State Highway Commission, the Arkansas Motor Carriers Association and the Arkansas Bar Association jointly sponsored a Transportation Law Seminar December 10, 1993 at the Central Office Headquarters.

Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark welcomed over 60 participants representing the legal community and the motor carrier industry.

Presentations were made by Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr., Highway Department Staff Attorney Treeca Dyer, and private practice attorneys James M. Duckett and Don A. Smith, who specialize in transportation and regulatory law.



Chairman Clark welcomes participants to the transportation law seminar.

The Commission presided over a mock hearing which featured a fictitious applicant seeking motor carrier authority. The role of the "applicant," Arkansas Hog Tank-

ers, Inc., was played by Scott Daniel, a private attorney, and was represented by Duckett. Robert S. Moore, Jr., former chairman of the Arkansas Transportation Commission, and AHTD Legal Aide Lyne Bassett acted as supporting witnesses for the applicant.

The protestant was played by Steve Haskins, vice president of Miller Transporters, Inc., a regional bulk carrier located in Jackson, Mississippi. The protestant's attorney was Smith. At the conclusion, the Commission and seminar leaders responded to questions from the audience regarding procedures, rulings from the bench and other issues raised during the mock hearing.

Quality Management Initiative Expanded to Districts

In January 1992 the Department first became involved in former Governor Bill Clinton's Quality Management initiative. Training for administrators was completed in April 1993. Since then, 14 teams have been established to review various Department activities and concerns, and make recommendations to management.

At the request of District Engineer William Tyler, District Three has been designated to implement and initiate Quality Management at the district level.

Valera McDaniel, the Department's Quality Management Coordinator, began orientation at the District headquarters in Hope February 16.

Participating employees were: Bobby Bailey, Bobby Calhoon, Bill Callicott, Don Donaldson, Earnest Edney, Dan Foster, Ronnie Garner, Weldon Garrison, Charles Ghormely, Ken Harris, Vinie Holt, Sammy Holton, Hesterly Jones, Susan Monroe, Nicholas St. Clair, Richard Sajak, Alvin Vaughn, Richard Wheeler, Jerry Whitehurst and Sonny Williams.



Valera McDaniel
AHTD Quality Management Coordinator

MADD Poster Contest Theme "My Future Is In Your Hands"



Jane Wilson, left, Division Head of Human Resources and Public Affairs, and John Cia, Safety Officer, judge the MADD poster contest.



Pictured with the winning posters are (L-R): John Cia, Betty Lindsey, Executive Director of Mother's Against Drunk Driving, and Jane Wilson.

SAVED



BY THE BELT

Saved By The Belt is a continuing feature of **Arkansas Highways** relating personal experiences of Department employees who have been involved in motor vehicle accidents and avoided serious injury or death because they were using their seat belts. Employees who would like to share their story should contact the Public Affairs Office at 569-2227.

Chuck Tully, District Six Bridge Inspector, Credits Seat Belts For Saving Him From Serious Injury

As a Bridge Inspector for District Six in Little Rock, Chuck Tully drives over 40,000 miles annually.

"I'm a very careful driver. I have taken several defensive driving courses and that has taught me to be aware of what other drivers

on the highway are doing," Tully said. "But all of that training and years of driving experience didn't help when another driver pulled in front of me last summer."

Last August, Tully and Steve Lane, Bridge Inspector Helper, had been inspecting bridges in Saline County. Driving through Benton, Tully stopped at a traffic signal at Highway 35 and North Street. The light changed and as he drove through the intersection, an oncoming vehicle turned in front of him, striking his pickup truck. The impact flipped the truck. Tully and Lane found themselves upside down, secured in the cab by their seat belts.

"I never saw the guy coming," Tully said. "I did not have time to react or hit the brakes. I felt the impact, heard the windshield break, the metal bend, and the next



Steve Lane and Chuck Tully

ing I knew, I'm hanging upside down trying to free my left leg from under the dashboard. "Steve was yelling at me to get out but I

couldn't move my leg. Finally I was able to get loose and crawl out." Tully suffered a broken ankle and fibula along with chest and

neck pains. Lane had cuts on his face, a bruised leg and torn cartilage in his chest. Both were treated and released from a local hospital. The driver of the other vehicle complained of chest pains and was treated by ambulance personnel.

"The seat belts saved us from serious injuries. I probably would have been thrown through the windshield had I not been buckled in," Lane said.

"I had a hard time adjusting to seat belts," Tully said. "However, when the Department seat belt policy came out, I started wearing it. It was hard to do, especially when you're in and out of your vehicle as often as I am. But I'm glad I was wearing it that day."



This is the Department vehicle that Tully was driving the day of the accident.

Henry Ward Selected Recipient of "Service to the Citizens Award"

Henry Ward, Construction Project Supervisor in Resident Engineer Jim Pound's Little Rock office received the February "Service to the Citizens Award" from Lt. Governor Mike Huckabee.

Nominations for the award may be made by public citizens and/or state employees. Joe Lucas, Senior Inspector, nominated Ward based not only on his 28 years service with the Department, but also for his willingness to apply his expertise in emergency situations such as the collapse of a piling on an Interstate 30 frontage road bridge in December.

Congratulations to Ward for this honor.



Left to right are Joe Lucas, Shirley and Henry Ward, and Lt. Governor Mike Huckabee.

Wildwood/Highway 67 Interchange Dedicated at Sherwood

Freezing temperatures didn't daunt the enthusiasm of the crowd as city and state officials joined members of the Highway Commission on December 13 to dedicate the newly completed Wildwood Avenue/Highway 67 Interchange in Sherwood.

"There is not a finer example of city, state and federal governments working together," Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark said, describing the teamwork involved in making the project a reality. "The improvements on Highway 67 and the interchange were funded with 75 percent federal funds and 25 percent state funds. The Wildwood Avenue widening was financed with 80 percent federal funding and 20 percent from the city."

The Commission awarded a \$6.7 million contract to Lawrence Brothers, Inc. of North Little Rock in July 1991 for the project. Highway 67 was widened to six lanes as part of the interchange modifica-

tion and Wildwood Avenue was widened to five lanes.

State Representative Doug Wood of Sherwood praised the Highway Department and the contractor for their work. Wood reminded the audience that the inter-

change is heavily traveled with over 59,000 vehicles a day using Highway 67. "We anticipated traffic problems during the construction, but things went well. That is a tribute to the Department and the contractor," he added.



Sherwood Mayor Bill Harmon, left center in dark coat, cuts the ribbon to officially open Wildwood Avenue. Others pictured left to right are: former Sherwood Mayor Bill Henson, State Representatives Joe Malinoro and Doug Wood with big scissors, State Senator Bill Gwatney, Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, Director Dan Flowers, Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, Chief Engineer Roger Almond, and Commissioner John "M" Lipton.

State Highway 109 Extension Officially Opened at Clarksville

More than 100 Johnson County residents gathered November 17 to officially open the extension of Highway 109 from Highway 194 to Highway 64 at Clarksville.

"I remember back in February 1992 when Mayor Marvin Vinson, County Judge Mike Jacobs and others from this area came before the Highway Commission with

their proposal for this road," Highway Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr. reminded the group. "You had a need and you presented a specific plan that would

satisfy that need and be beneficial to us as well.”

Wal-Mart was interested in locating a distribution center near the 109/194 intersection but required better access to Highway 64. The city and county agreed to take the old Highway 109 into their street system if the Highway Commission would construct a new route extending to Highway 64.

The Highway Commission awarded a \$1.5 million contract to Jack Wood Construction Company of Judsonia in October 1992 to construct the 2.2-mile extension.

The agreement for this project between the Commission and area officials has paid off. In addition to the Wal-Mart Distribution Cen-



Members of the Arkansas State Highway Commission and Johnson County residents cut the ribbon to officially open the new Highway 109 extension.

ter, other industries are locating along the route. Over 300 trucks

now travel Highway 109 daily and the number is expected to increase.

Phoenix Avenue Extension Topic of Fort Smith Public Hearing

Residents of Fort Smith were given the opportunity to view preliminary plans and gather information regarding the proposed extension of Phoenix Avenue in Fort Smith at an open forum public hearing November 23, 1993. The hearing was held in the Chaffin Junior High School Cafeteria from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The City of Fort Smith has been looking for a way to relieve traffic congestion on Rogers Avenue. Extending Phoenix Avenue from Old Greenwood Road to intersect with Rogers Avenue near

Massard Road would provide motorists an option for traveling through the area.

The proposed route would divert an estimated 7,000 to 16,000 vehicles per day from Rogers Avenue. The completed project would be a five-lane facility that would parallel a portion of the northern and western boundaries of the Fort Smith Regional Airport, providing new and better access to the airport.

The road is generally considered to be a good investment for the city and is largely noncontro-

versial because businesses and residences will not need to be relocated. Much of the necessary right of way was donated to the City by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Those who attended the hearing were advised that, pending Federal Highway Administration approval, construction could begin by mid-1994. The approximate \$12 million project will be financed with federal and local funds. No state highway revenues will be used since Phoenix Avenue is not on the State Highway System.

Director of Highways, Chief Engineer, and Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Retire

AHTD Director Maurice Smith Retires

Maurice Smith, Director of Highways and Transportation, retired December 31, 1993 after six years of service. A reception was held in his honor December 9 which over 300 coworkers and friends attended.

L.W. "Bill" Clark, State Highway Commission Chairman and Dan Flowers, the incoming Director, presented Mr. Smith with a retirement certificate and a Director Emeritus plaque. He also received a fly-fishing rod, a vest filled with handmade fishing flies and various fishing items from staff employees.

During the reception Mr. Smith received a telephone call from President Bill Clinton. The President thanked Mr. Smith for his service to the Department and for his many years of service to the State.



Maurice Smith, left, receives his fishing equipment from Commissioner Clark, right, and incoming Director Flowers, center.



Charles Venable, Chief Engineer, left, accepts his retirement certificate from Commissioner Clark.

Chief Engineer Charles Venable Retires After 34 Years of Service

Chief Engineer Charles Venable retired January 31, 1994 after 34 years with the Highway and Transportation Department. Venable had been the Department's Chief Engineer since 1988.

He is a registered professional engineer and land surveyor earning a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. During his Department career he served as Assistant Engineer of Surveys, Engineer of Surveys, and Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning. As Chief Engineer, Venable was a board member of the Arkansas State Highway Employees Retirement System.

A retirement reception was held January 27. Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark presented Venable with a retirement certificate, a black-powder gun kit and golfing accessories from staff members.

Peevy Announces Retirement

Calvin Peevy, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations the past seven years announced his retirement February 16, 1994. Peevy's retirement will become effective in May which marks his 35th anniversary with the Department.

Peevy is a native of Alma and a graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville where he earned a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering in 1958.

Peevy began his career with the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department in 1959 in Bridge Design. During his career he has served as Resident Engineer (Van Buren), District Engineer (Fort Smith), Materials and Research Engineer, Maintenance Engineer, and Construction Engineer. He was promoted to his current position of Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations in 1987.

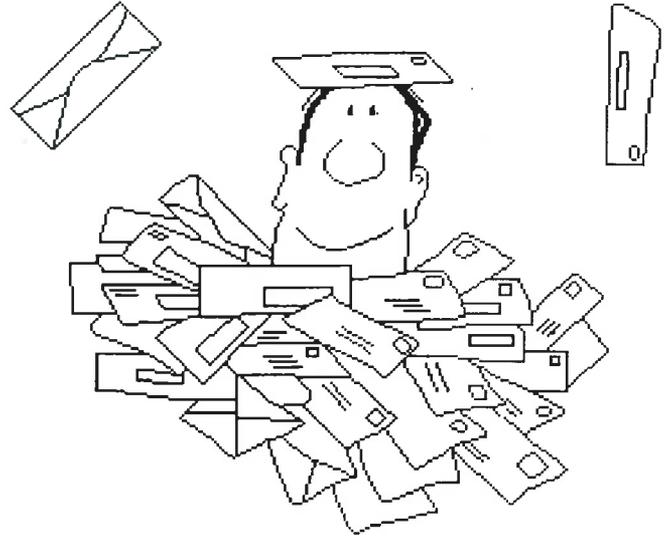
He is a registered professional engineer and a member of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Highway Subcommittees on Construction, Maintenance, and Materials. He was named "Boss of the Year" by the Arkansas Interdepartmental Relations Committee 1993.

He and his wife, the former Marilyn Carney, have two sons Rodney and David, and a grandson. The Peevys are members of the Asbury United Methodist Church in Little Rock.



Calvin Peevy
Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations

AHTD MAILBAG



Ralph Fulton
District 9 Engineer
Harrison, AR

Dear Mr. Fulton:

On Sunday, January 16, Marion County experienced a combination of freezing rain, sleet, and snow resulting in a coating of extremely treacherous ice on our state highways.

The personnel of the Marion County maintenance crew immediately and effectively began removing the snow and ice. On Monday afternoon Highway 62 was clear and dry. Efforts on Highways 14 and 235 were rapidly eliminating the problem areas.

It has been noted by this department that accidents on state highways of this county during this period have been very few. We attribute this in great part to the efforts of your personnel assigned to this county. Your personnel have performed at this high level in every instance I recall where ice and snow have made our highways dangerous.

Will you please advise them of our appreciation.

Respectfully,
Roger L. Edmonson
Marion County Sheriff

.....

Amos Zimmer
Scott County Area Maintenance Supervisor
Waldron, AR

Dear Mr. Zimmer,

We feel we would be remiss if we did not write this letter of commendation regarding the attendants at the Truman Baker Rest Stop on Highway 71 just south of Waldron.

On December 23, my wife left her purse in the ladies restroom with quite a bit of money, credit cards, checkbook, health cards, etc., in it. We discovered the purse missing about 35 miles down the road. By the time we returned, 90 minutes had elapsed. We were met by Jeff Rose who returned the purse (intact) to us. He had even taken the trouble to call our home to try to locate us. Naturally, we were overjoyed to receive the purse. Our Christmas was indeed a joyous one.

In this day and age we read and hear so many bad things about public and other employees that it takes an incident like this to restore one's faith in the human race.

In the emotional excitement of the moment, we did not get the names of all the employees involved, but we believe that Herb Cross and Jeff Rose, rest area attendants, were our benefactors and they and your department have earned our highest respects.

Sincerely,
Roy and Eileen Olson
Hot Springs Village, AR

Jane Wilson
Division Head of Human Resources and Public Affairs

Dear Ms. Wilson:

I took advantage of the opportunity to attend the back program offered by the Training and Safety Section of the Human Resources and Public Affairs Division. The tape and supporting comments were excellent. I was impressed with the presentation and am happy to learn that the program is offered Department wide.

If this training saves only one back injury this year, it will be well worth the investment. I hope to have the opportunity to participate in other similar programs in the future.

Calvin Gibson, Staff Attorney
AHTD Legal Division

.....

Arkansas Highway Police
John Bailey, Chief
Little Rock, AR

Dear Chief Bailey:

I would like to thank Ptl. Rick Hickman for going out of his way to help me when I was stranded on Interstate 40. I had a blowout and was on the side of the road trying to get to the next exit on the tire rim. I had no idea how to use my spare, no way to communicate with anyone and it was getting dark. As I looked up I saw Ptl. Hickman pulling up behind me. He had been heading east and saw me across the interstate. Realizing I was in trouble, he turned around and came to help.

He was able to fix a rather complicated flat, as several tools were missing and the jack was faulty, and I was able to continue to Little Rock safely. I don't know what might have happened had it not been for Ptl. Hickman.

I am very grateful to know there are people who are truly concerned and responsible beyond regular duties. I believe Ptl. Hickman genuinely cares about helping others. I appreciate all he did and wanted to pass that on.

Thank you,
Judy Bilbrey
Germantown, TN

Arkansas Highway Police
John Bailey, Chief
Little Rock, AR

Dear Chief Bailey: RE: Jim Acord, Unit 381

On Wednesday, December 8, 1993, my daughter and I ran out of gas on Interstate 40 about mile marker 38 shortly after darkness. My daughter was due at a very important Christmas cantata practice (she was the narrator) at 8 p.m. We lifted our hood, turned on our flashers, prayed and waited.

Officer Acord arrived shortly thereafter. We were both pleased and thankful for his courteous and efficient handling of our problem. He secured a gas can, got us to a service station — then had to do a little “mechanical work” to get our car going again. We just wanted you to know how grateful we were for his kind assistance.

Sincerely,
Evelyn Hill
Mountainburg, AR

Ralph Fulton
District 9 Engineer
Harrison, AR

Dear Mr. Fulton:

I would like to thank you and your crews who worked in Bella Vista Village during our recent bad weather. They responded quickly, thereby avoiding any serious problems.

On behalf of our residents, thank you and your crews for the professional manner in which they maintain our highways here in the Village.

If you should ever need our assistance please call.

Sincerely,
F. Michael Taggart
Public Works Administrator

CENTRAL OFFICE SERVICE AWARDS



Receiving 35-year service awards (L-R): Les Perry, Federal Aid Billing Clerk, Fiscal Services; Wilbert Chapman, Assistant Division Head, State Aid; Jim Stringer, Data Processing Manager, Computer Services; and Jake Clements, Staff Geotechnical Officer, Materials.



Receiving 30-year service awards (L-R): Gene Cagle, Section Head, Buildings Maintenance, Human Resources and Public Affairs; Sue Walls, Division Section Secretary, Surveys; and Barney Phillips, Public Transportation Coordinator, Planning and Research.



Receiving 25-year service awards (L-R front row): Jim Gilbert, Public Transportation Administrator, Planning and Research; Brenda Kirkpatrick, Section Office Manager, Planning and Research; Kay Cornish, Computer User Coordinator, Computer Services; Barbara Smith, Data Processing Manager, Computer Services; Grover Jones, Striping Crew Supervisor, Traffic; and Marlon McCuen, Striping Crew Supervisor, Traffic. Back row: Danny Moore, Senior Traffic Investigator, Traffic; Dan Flowers, incoming Director; J.P. Sumner, Jr., Structural Detailer, Bridge; Gary Ashley, Staff Bridge Design Engineer, Bridge; and Roger Almond, Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning, subsequently named Chief Engineer.

Around the Department

BRIDGE



Rick and Cheryl Ellis were married January 1 at Marmaduke. Rick is a Bridge Design Engineer and Cheryl is a pharmacist at Baptist Medical Center.

J.P. Sumner's wife Frankie Jo and daughter Kelly hosted a 25-year service recognition reception for him December 9, 1993. J.P. received a service award certificate from Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark at the Central Office Awards Ceremony.

Deborah Mathis, Senior Bridge Design Engineer, transferred to the Bridge Rating and Inspection Section as a Senior Structures Engineer. Deborah has been with the Department since August 1982.

Ed Vajcner, Engineering Intern, recently spent three months in one of our design sections. He is working on an Engineering Technology degree at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Ed is now in District Six learning about the various district activities.

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

Gary Joe Lewis, Section Head of Final Estimates, retired October 28 with 30 years service. He was presented with a fishing rod and tackle box from Division employees.

The Division welcomes Belinda Harper, General Clerk in the file room. She is married and has two children Brandon and Taylor.

Final Estimates congratulates Linda Gunn for passing the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam. Linda has transferred to Roadway Design.

Reta McCoy of the Final Estimates Section has been in Baptist Memorial Hospital.



Madge Livingston, Division Secretary, retired November 5, 1993 with 30 years service.



Clifford Roland of Heavy Bridge receives a 5-year service award from his supervisor Ben Winkler.

COMPUTER SERVICES



Division Head Jerry Stussy, left, presents Carolyn Stringer, Production Control Section Manager, with a flower arrangement in a crystal basket as a gift from Division employees, upon her retirement January 5 after 33 years.

A retirement reception was held in the Central Office Auditorium for Carolyn. Her section employees took her out for dinner at the Butcher Shop and gave her a diamond and amethyst ring.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE



Ann May, left, Administrative Officer, shown with Maurice Smith, retired December 31 with over 27 years of service with the Department.

Ann has been the secretary to the Director for both Maurice Smith and Henry Gray. She was recognized at a retirement reception on December 8, 1993 and received a cellular telephone from her coworkers and a crystal Christmas decoration from Mr. Smith.

FISCAL SERVICES



Chief Fiscal Officer Larry Dickerson, left, and Les Perry, who retired after 35 years with the Department.

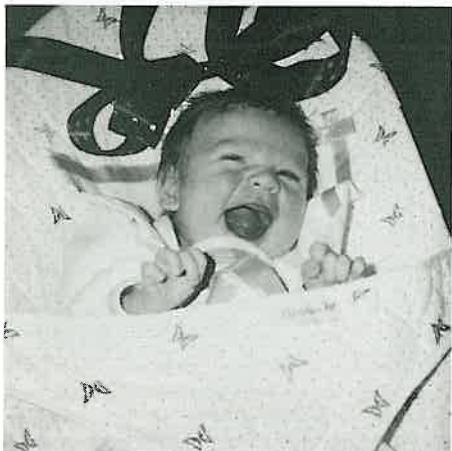
Les was a Fiscal Clerk in the Federal Aid Billing Section. A reception was held November 17 which was attended by family members, friends and coworkers. A handmade clock with the AHTD logo on the face was presented to Les from Division employees.



Chief Fiscal Officer Dickerson presents Toni Barnes, Payroll Specialist, a 15-year service award.



Kristopher Blayne Wagner, son of Anne-Marie Wagner, General Clerk, was born September 17, 1993.



Crayton Allen Sams, son of Division Secretary Marla Sams, was born October 26, 1993.

Marla and Randy would like to extend their appreciation to everyone for the calls, visits, cards and blood donations for their son. He was born with a heart condition that required a heart transplant November 10.

Crayton was released from Children's Hospital on December 5.

HIGHWAY POLICE

Patrol Officer First Class Tim Choate was selected as 1993 Public Safety Officer of the Year from the Arkansas Highway Police by the Oaklawn and Texarkana Rotary clubs.

He was presented his award by AHP Captain Gary East at the 13th Annual Rotary Public Safety Officers' Appreciation Luncheon, October 28, 1993 in Texarkana.

Pfc. Choate has been with the Highway Police since December 1987.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS



Crystal Clark has been hired in fulltime status with the Department.

Crystal had been a seasonal employee in the Personnel Section since May 1990 while attending the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She recently graduated with a degree in Human Resources Management.



Jay Kelly is working fulltime in the Mail and Supply Section.



Jenny Roberson transferred from Mail and Supply to the Personnel Section as Central Office Receptionist.

Another personnel change was the transfer of Lynanne Taylor to Environmental. She is the Division Section Secretary for the Special Studies Section.

MATERIALS

This Division celebrated the holidays with a Christmas potluck luncheon. A special guest was Calvin Peevy, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations, who presented service awards to the following: Jake Clements, 35 years; Jerl Burks and Jim Gee, 30 years; Sonny Lofland, 25 years; Louis Bryant, Jerry Westerman and Orville Wiggins, 20 years; Harold Banks, Danny Jones, Scooter Keys and Mike Limbird, 15 years; Karen McDaniels, 10 years; and Wade Holdcraft, Bill Pay and George Smith, 5 years.

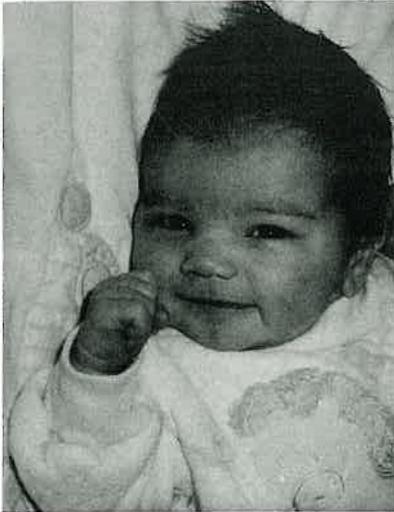
Materials is glad to have Bob "Buck" Gossett and Gerald Sneed back to work after brief stays in the hospital.

There are two seasonal employees working with us this school year. Joseph Simpson is working in District Two with Earl Raines, District Materials Supervisor. Joseph attends the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff. Mike Hayes is working in District Eight with District Materials Supervisor Sonny Lofland while he attends Arkansas Tech University in Russellville.

Our sympathy is extended to Harold Banks and Ellie Watson, who both experienced deaths in their families recently.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

The Division's annual Christmas luncheon was held December 18. In addition Technical Services had a Christmas dinner at BJ's Family Restaurant December 11 and the field personnel held their Christmas luncheon at Brown's Country Kitchen. Division Head Bryan Davis presented perfect attendance awards to those who had not used any sick leave for the year.



Dana Kristine "Cookie" Sherman, daughter of Tod and Michelle Sherman, was born November 16. "Cookie" weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and has a brother Kyle who will be four in March. Tod is a Transportation Planner.

Congratulations to Jack and Julie Wheat on the recent birth of their son Carson. He weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces. The Wheat's have another son Jackson.

Patricia Greenway, Reproduction Section Secretary, is teaching aerobics to Department employees. The classes are held in the Department's cafeteria after work two days a week.



Patricia Greenway's son Bill Remow and Jennifer Brents were married in August.



Margaret Jackson, Civil Engineering Technician and Jim McClair were married in November.

Congratulations to Boon Thian, Advanced Research Study Engineer, on his December marriage to Renee Hui who is a student at UALR. Boon and Renee plan to take a trip to Hong Kong and Malaysia this summer to visit relatives.

Chuck Sitton, Research Assistant, narrowly escaped serious injury in a recent truck accident which totaled his vehicle.

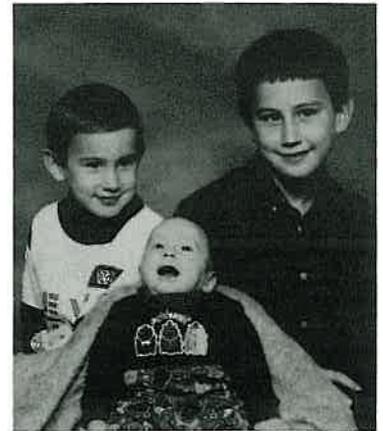
Jerry Heffington, Camera Operations Supervisor in Reproduction, donated several of his pen and ink prints to the Arkansas Wildlife Federation for their annual benefit at Rick's Armory.

PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTS



Meerna Muradweig is the daughter of Mazen and Samia Muradweig. Mazen is a Programs and Contracts Engineer.

RIGHT OF WAY



Andrew, Austin and Adam Kuettel are the sons of Gene and Candy Kuettel. Gene is a Utility Coordinator.

ROADWAY DESIGN



Shirley Bridges, Division Secretary, and Bobby Welch, Staff Design Engineer, received their 30 and 25-year service awards from Division Head Paul DeBusk at a reception December 17.

Chuck and Andrea Martin were married December 18. Chuck is a Design Engineer.

Thomas Edward Reynolds, son of Ed and Cherrie Reynolds, was born January 25, 1994 weighing 6 pounds and 2 ounces. Ed is an Advanced CADD Engineer.

STATE AID



Brianna Paige Oldham is the granddaughter of Division Secretary Barbara Croswell.



Lenzie Brooks Dawn Oliver is the granddaughter of Marty Bevans, Design Technician. She was born June 17, 1993.



Danny Moore, right, Senior Traffic Investigator, celebrates his 25-year service recognition with his supervisor Eric Phillips.



Tony Sullivan presents Striping Machine Operator Tim Hurt a 5-year service award.



Ashley Marie Williams is the daughter of Dale and Amy Williams. Dale is a Sign Maker I.



Dedra Jordan is the daughter of Ann Jordan, Accident Coding Clerk II. She was crowned Sylan Hills Jr. High homecoming queen.

SURVEYS



Christmas luncheon in Surveys

TRAFFIC



Traffic Division Head Jim Barnett presents Tony Sullivan, Staff Traffic Engineer, with a 15-year service award.

Receiving 15-year service awards were Henry Jackson, Sign Maker II and James Hastings, Carpenter.



Bobbie Kraehmer, left, Division Secretary, is shown with grandson Blake and daughter Kathy Moreland. Blake was born January 7.



Sympathy is extended to the family of Ima Jo Cazer who died January 3. Ima was a former Traffic Analyst in the Traffic Safety Section.

DISTRICT ONE

District One's annual service award ceremony and Christmas luncheon was December 13. Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield was the special guest. Commissioner Benafield and District Engineer Ray Woodruff presented service and retirement certificates.



District Maintenance Superintendent Calvin George, center, receives a 35-year service award from District Engineer Woodruff, left, and Commissioner Benafield, right.



Crew Leader Ronald Dunigan, center, receives a 25-year service award from District Engineer Woodruff, left, and Commissioner Benafield, right.



James Spencer, Crane Operator/Finish retired March 1993 with 35 years service and was presented a retirement certificate by Commissioner Benafield.



20-year service awards were presented by District Engineer Woodruff, far left, and Commissioner Benafield, far right, to Ernestine Able, Field Clerk II; Edd Cooper, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish; Johnny Turner, Distributor/Roller Operator; Doug Ragsdale, Construction Aide II; and Jimmie McAlister, Rest Area Attendant.



15-year service awards were presented by District Engineer Woodruff, far left, and Commissioner Benafield, far right, to Samuel Fletcher, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Walter Laird, Lead Person; Mark Montgomery, Construction Materials Inspector; Jim Smith, Distributor Operator; Dan Marrs, Street Sweeper Operator; James Fourthman, Area Headquarters Attendant; Billy McGuire, Storeroom Supervisor; J.R. Proctor, Lead Person; Danny Thomas, Rest Area Attendant; Ollis Fields, Vegetation Controller; and Ray Weaver, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Crittenden County.



Resident Engineer Carl Bachelor presents Doug Ragsdale, Senior Construction Aide, a 20-year service pin.



Earnest Rose, center, was recognized by District Engineer Woodruff and Commissioner Benafield for winning the tractor/mower competition two years in a row at the Statewide Roaddeo competition. Earnest is a Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator with the Phillips County maintenance crew.



Brenda and David McFadden visited their son Jody and his family in Okinawa last September. David is Assistant Maintenance Superintendent.

A blood drive was held in District One January 24 with 86 employees participating. Seventy-four pints of blood was donated to the American Red Cross.

DISTRICT TWO

District Two's annual Christmas luncheon/service award ceremony was held December 17. Special guest was Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Calvin Peevy.



Shown left to right are: John Herrington, Bridge Crew Job Superintendent, 25 years; Clinton Bohannon, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Arkansas County, 30 years; D.W. "Doc" Miles, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Drew County, 30 years; and Paul Griffith, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Grant County, 35 years.



Ted Bridges, District Sign Crew Supervisor, receives a 5-year service award from Tommy Simmons, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent.



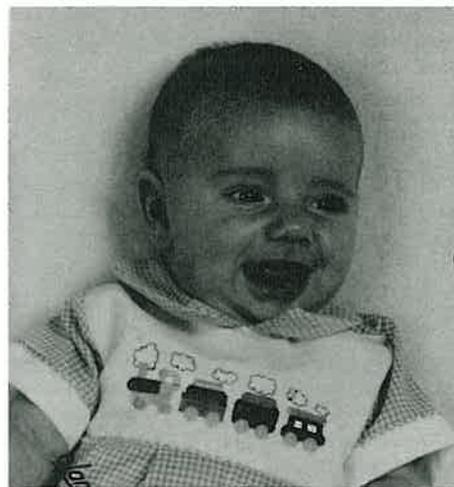
Johnnie Risher, left, Crew Leader for D.W. Miles, right, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Drew County, was recently promoted to Area Maintenance Supervisor/Columbia County in District Seven.



Kori Kendall, left, and Jaci Nicole, right, are the daughters of Kenneth and Billie Edwards. Kori was crowned 1993 Baby Miss Springfest and Jaci was crowned 1993 Miss Lincoln County Tot. Kenneth is a Dozer Operator/Finish in the District maintenance crew.



Thomas Aaron Gateley is the son of Tommy and Robin Gateley. He was born October 23, 1993. Tommy is a Paver Operator for the District maintenance crew.



Tyler Reid is the son of Bill and Cindy Plunkett. He was born August 7, 1993. Bill is the Area Maintenance Supervisor/Lincoln County and Cindy is District Two Fuel Clerk.



Andrew Grey and Lisa Michelle Sipes are the grandchildren of A.G. Sipes, District Two Shop Supervisor.



Jason Scott Jones was born December 26, 1993. He is the great-grandson of retiree Doyle Martin, former Crew Leader for the Chicot County maintenance crew.

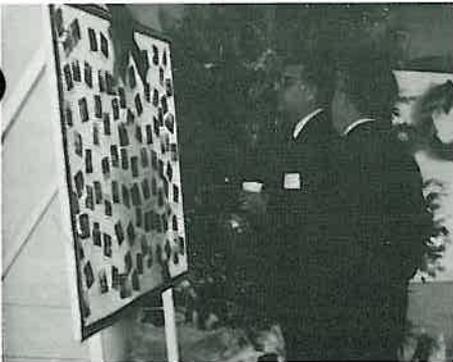


Commissioner Hopper, left, presents a 25-year service award to Jimmie Bowerman, Motor Patrol Operator in the Washington II maintenance crew.



Gene Holloway, right, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Washington II, receives a 25-year service award from Commissioner Hopper.

DISTRICT FOUR



The District Four Christmas open house/awards ceremony was December 17. Special guests were Commission Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, right, and incoming Director Dan Flowers, left.



Lewis Martin, right, Senior Construction Materials Inspector, receives a 25-year service award from Commissioner Hopper.



Commissioner Hopper, left, presents Larry Thornburg, Crew Leader in the Washington II maintenance crew, a 25-year service award.



Receiving 30-year service awards are (L-R): Hester Brown, Station Attendant Supervisor; Sam Kizer, Assistant Resident Engineer; and Don Creech, Assistant Resident Engineer.



Commissioner Hopper, left, presents a 25-year award to Cornelious Peters, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Sebastian II.



Gary Carte, right, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, Washington I maintenance crew, receives a 25-year service award from Commissioner Hopper.



Santa and his helper, along with District Engineer Harold Beaver, far right, hand out door prizes at the Christmas open house.



Roller Operator Bill Gray, left, receives a 15-year service award from David Becker, District Maintenance Superintendent.



District Engineer Beaver, left, presents a 15-year service award to Dean Nichols, Resident Engineer.



Resident Engineer Leon Brewer, left, presents Don Thomas, Inspector, a 15-year service award.



James Didick, Single Axle Truck Driver, receives a 5-year service award from Cornelius Peters, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Sebastian II.



Mary Young, left, Construction Aide, receives a 5-year service award from Resident Engineer Leon Brewer.



Robby and Vonda Robertson were married October 23, 1993. Robby is an Inspector for the Alma residency.



Olivia Christine Copeland is the daughter of James and Kellie Copeland. She was born October 18, 1993 and weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces. James is Lead Person for the Sebastian I maintenance crew.



Tonya Meyer is the daughter of Connie and Debbie Meyer. She was selected 1993 homecoming queen at Lincoln High School. Connie is the Area Headquarters Attendant for the Washington I maintenance crew.

DISTRICT FIVE



The District Five Christmas luncheon and service award presentation was December 17. Special guest was Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr., far right, who along with District Engineer Jim Chaney, far left, presented awards to Ron Hedges, Assistant Maintenance Supervisor, 30 years; Bill Allred, Crew Leader, retirement 29 years; Fred Heyde, District Bridge Inspector, 25 years; Leroy Swink, Resident Engineer, 35 years; Ralph Buchanan, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Cleburne County, 25 years; Kenneth Mathis, Senior Inspector, retirement 35 years; and Elijah Coles, Crew Leader, 30 years.



James Brinkley, Motor Patrol Operator in the White County maintenance crew, displays his 20-year service award.



Elizabeth and Jonathan Gori are the grandchildren of Marilyn Coffman, District Office Manager.



Tahyn Rachelle Beard is the granddaughter of Leslie Shane, Senior Mechanic in the District shop.



Brad and Tracye Sipe were married in Memphis, Tennessee. Brad is the son of Doug Sipe, District Maintenance Crew Leader.

DISTRICT SIX

The District Six Christmas luncheon/awards ceremony was December 16. Special guest Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark and District Engineer Ralph Hall made the presentations. Also attending were: Maurice Smith, Director of Highways and Transportation; Dan Flowers, incoming Director; Charles Venable, Chief Engineer; Roger Almond, Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning; Jane Wilson, Division Head of Human Resources; and Melba Shepard, Personnel Officer.



Receiving 30-year service awards were (L-R): James Welcher, left, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Hot Spring County; and Lamar Coyle, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Prairie County.



Receiving 25-year service awards were (L-R): Maurice Hinshaw, Crew Leader; Jimmy Leath, Lead Person; Bill Crumpton, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Garland County; and Earl White, Crew Leader.



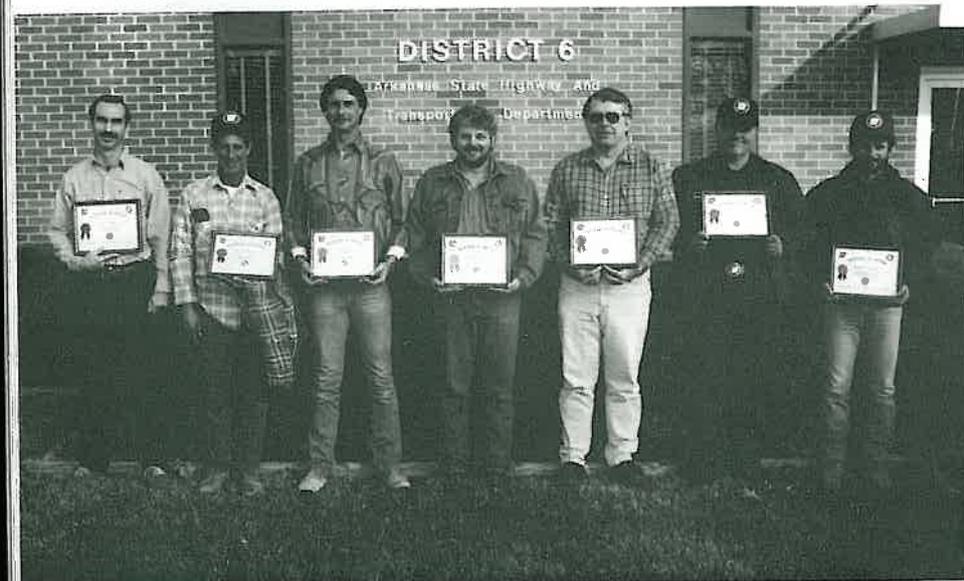
Receiving 20-year service awards were (L-R): James Cole, Vegetation Controller; Mike Allman, Senior Inspector; Hosea Hall, Single Axle Truck Driver; William Parker, Roller Operator; James Thompson, Area Headquarters Attendant; and John Kruse, Single Axle Truck Driver.



Herman Erwin, Inspector, receives a 20-year service award.



Felix Hall, Sealing Job Superintendent, retired November 1 with 30 years service. Felix was presented a plaque purchased by crew members.



Receiving 15-year service awards were (L-R): James Harris, Advanced Construction Field Engineer; William Nickels, Dozer Operator/Finish; John Robbins, Crew Leader; Tom Adams, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish; Charles Crain, Senior Construction Materials Inspector; David Lovell, General Laborer; and Stewart Hawkins, Lead Person.



Resident Engineer David Walker, left, presents Conway White, Inspector, a plaque purchased by crew members for his retirement with 20 years of service.



At the Hot Springs residency Christmas luncheon, employees voted Jerry Atchley, left, Construction Helper II, as "Most Improved Employee" and Romosha Bridges, center, Resident Office Technician and Donnie Parish, right, Construction Aide II, as "Employees of the Year".



Eldon Luker, left, and son Kenny with their pony league trophies. The trophies represent league, district and state championships. Eldon is a Sealing Job Superintendent.



Taylor Don Jenkins is the son of Marshall and Renee Jenkins. He was born November 25, 1993. Marshall is a Sign Erector I.



Tyler Dane Bolanos is the son of Jim and Kim Bolanos. He was born November 12, 1992. Jim is a Bridge Inspector Helper.

DISTRICT SEVEN

The District's service and safety award presentation was January 18, 1994. Special guests were Commissioner John "M" Lipton, Director Dan Flowers, Division Head of Human Resources and Public Affairs Jane Wilson, and Safety Inspection Officer Carroll Lathan.



Receiving service awards were front row (L-R): Bob Myers, Resident Engineer, 30 years; Edward Carter, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, 30 years; Clarence McCaskill, Crew Leader, 30 years; Buddy Beard, Construction Project Supervisor, 35 years; John Harvey, District Maintenance Superintendent, 30 years; and Bobby Reddin, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 30 years. Back row (L-R): James Cantrell, Inspector, 25 years; District Engineer Coy Campbell; Harris Hearnberger, Senior Inspector, 30 years; and Commissioner Lipton.



Accepting safety awards on behalf of their crews were front row (L-R): James Cantrell, Inspector, Camden and Arkadelphia Resident Engineer offices; Gordon Hite, Resident Engineer/El Dorado; Stan Smith, District Bridge Inspector, District bridge crew; Thomas Lindsey, Maintenance Job Superintendent, District maintenance crew; and Chuck Vance, District Bridge Inspector, District bridge crew. Second row (L-R): Randy Gates, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Union County maintenance crew; Alan Hearnberger, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Bradley County maintenance crew; Coy Campbell, District Engineer, District office; Rommie Belt, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Ouachita County maintenance crew; and Bobby Reddin, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Dallas County maintenance crew. Third row (L-R): James Ellis, Sealing Job Superintendent, District sealing crew; Vance Huneycutt, Sign Crew Supervisor, District sealing crew; Phil Benson, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Calhoun County maintenance crew; and Commissioner Lipton.



Union County maintenance crew



Nicholas Andrew Archer is the son of David and Kim Archer. Nicholas was born December 22, 1993. David is Assistant Maintenance Superintendent.



Patricia Robertson is the daughter of Bobby Robertson, Single Axle Truck Driver in the District bridge crew. She was selected junior homecoming queen at Stephens High School.



Dennis Lindsey, Roller Operator for the District sealing crew, is holding his grandson Weston Tate King who was born November 3, 1993.



Clifton Jayce Kemp is the grandson of Clifford Childers, Crew Leader for the Calhoun County maintenance crew. Clifton was born November 9, 1993.



Laura, Aaron and Mary Thornton, shown with Governor Jim Guy Tucker, are the children of Ken Thornton, Construction Aide II at the El Dorado residency. They were invited to the State Capitol for a 4-H awards ceremony. They are members of the Sumpter 4-H Club which was selected as Bradley County's 4-H Club of the Year and Laura was chosen Bradley County 4-H Senior Girl of the Year.

DISTRICT EIGHT



District Eight's Christmas potluck was December 17. Special guest was Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr., back row, far left, who along with District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher, back row, far right, presented service awards to front row (L-R): Billy Henry, Crew Leader, 25 years; Floyd Cates, Spreader Operator, 25 years; Thomas Daily, Jr., Assistant Maintenance Superintendent, 30 years; and Eddie Deckard, Senior Inspector, 25 years. Back row: J.J. Blalock, Senior Inspector, 30 years; James McFerran, District Equipment Supervisor, 25 years; J.L. Martin, Construction Project Supervisor, 30 years.



Service awards presented at a District supervisor's meeting were (L-R): Billy Pruitt, Distributor/Roller Operator, 15 years; Lester Mathis, Jr., Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 20 years; Melton Clark, Distributor/Roller Operator, 10 years; Linder Barnes, Rest Area Attendant, 10 years; Leland Nixon, Area Headquarters Attendant, 10 years; Bobby McKinney, Single Axle Truck Driver, 15 years; John Hayes, Area Headquarters Attendant, 15 years; and James Hughes, Lead Person, 15 years.



Don Crain, second from right, presented safety awards and accepting on behalf of their crews were (L-R): Kenneth Crow, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Yell County maintenance crew; Steve Sheets, District Storeroom Supervisor, District storeroom; Joe Phillips, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Perry County maintenance crew; B.S. Bonds, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Van Buren County maintenance crew; Al Hunt, District Office Manager, District office; Jack Ray, Area Maintenance Supervisor, Faulkner County maintenance crew; and Francis Jones, Sign Crew Supervisor, District sign crew.



Commissioner Branscum, right, greets Smitty Bonds, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Van Buren County, at the Christmas potluck.



Melton Clark, left, Distributor/Roller Operator in the Faulkner County maintenance crew, retired in January with 10 years service.



J.L. Martin, right, Construction Project Supervisor for the Russellville residency, retired with 30 years service. The crew presented him with a briefcase.



Christopher Eugene Littlejohn is the grandson of Clinton Littlejohn, Electrical, Plumbing and Mechanical Repairer at the District shop.

DISTRICT NINE



Wayne Bell, center, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish in the Carroll County maintenance crew, receives a 30-year service award from incoming Director Dan Flowers, left, and Commission Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, right. Wayne received his award at the District Nine open house in December.



Receiving 25-year service awards (L-R): Bob Brisco, Lowboy or Float Truck Driver; Gene Taylor, Bridge Job Superintendent; Jack Dodson, Lead Person; Kenneth Oxford, Area Maintenance Supervisor/Marion County; and John Sisco, Lead Person.



Receiving 20-year service awards were front row (L-R): Paul McChristian, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish; Glen Griffin, Janitor; Cecil Robinson, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Debbie Meyer, District Office Manager; and Phil Taylor, Lead Person. Back row (L-R): Bobby Clark, Single Axle Truck Driver; A.L. Rhoads, Vegetation Controller; Donald Spencer, Construction Aide II; Johnney Horton, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish; Norman Pittman, Inspector; and Bud Young, Jr., Area Headquarters Attendant.



Receiving 15-year service awards were front row (L-R): Bobbie Wise, Field Clerk II; Jeff Stroud, Assistant Resident Engineer; Jim Barton, Resident Engineer; Paul Laster, Inspector; Denver Jennings, Crew Leader; and Charles Johnson, Inspector. Back row (L-R): Betty Weston, Area Headquarters Attendant; Wayne Trammell, Inspector; Tim Fields, Multi Axle Truck Driver; Lawrence Drewry, Distributor/Roller Operator; James Fancher, District Bridge Inspector Helper; Ron Pierson, Area Headquarters Attendant; and Glenda Goats, District Permit Officer.

DISTRICT TEN

District Ten held its annual Christmas awards reception in December. Special guest was Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield. He and District Engineer Joe Barnett made the service and retirement award presentations.



Receiving awards were front row (L-R): Richard Stuart, District Maintenance Superintendent, 30 years; Tom Carley, Crew Leader, 25 years; Dick Hays, District Bridge Inspector, 30 years; Ron Blankenship, Sealing Job Superintendent, 25 years; Frank Duran, General Laborer, 25 years; Leonard Nelson, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent, 35 years; Loyal Moore, Crew Leader, retirement 27 years; and Gene Davenport, Vegetation Controller, retirement 26 years. Back row: District Engineer Barnett; Curtis Stokes, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 25 years; Aaron Pannel, Crew Leader, 35 years; Jessie Dial, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, 25 years; Frank Coffell, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, 25 years; Orville Brooms, General Laborer, retirement 19 years; Olin Ridge, Crew Leader, retirement 25 years; and Commissioner Benafield.



James Hefley, left, Janitor and John Sisco, Lead Person, received retirement certificates.

District Receptionist Karen Wasson and Joe Cotton were married January 14, 1994.



Receiving service awards in January were front row (L-R): Vicki Branum, Rest Area Attendant, 5 years; Ellen Akin, Rest Area Attendant, 10 years; Steve Shaver, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 5 years; and Joe Ferguson, Construction Aide II, 5 years. Back row: Claude Bilderback, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 years; Roger Specking, District Bridge Inspector Helper, 10 years; Ricky Richardson, Distributor/Roller Operator, 5 years; and Harold McElduff, Construction Aide III, 15 years.



Toni Johnson holds her son John Cameron who was born October 28, 1993 weighing 2 pounds, 3 ounces. She is the daughter of Lou Varvil, Janitor. Cameron stayed in the Newborn Center at Memphis Hospital until December 22.



Jerry N. "Freck" Barnes, far right, Construction Project Supervisor for the Osceola residency, is shown with retirees Buddy Pounders, Bob Glover, A.J. Baylock, Guy Spears, and his wife Brenda at a retirement reception in December. Freck retired after 33 years service. His coworkers presented him with a watch and a personalized set of dominoes.



Brandon Jefferson is the grandson of Hollen Jefferson, Lead Person for the Mississippi II maintenance crew.

Amanda Riley, daughter of Mike Riley, Senior Inspector at the Osceola residency, was selected Miss Christmas Belle of the 4th grade at Riverside East Elementary.

Dale Arnold, Senior Mechanic, who fell from a motor patrol while getting it ready for snow and ice removal, crushed his knee cap and will be off work for several weeks.

District Ten would like to thank Districts One and Six for the loan of personnel and equipment during January to help with snow and ice removal.



**Leroy Harviston, Bridge Repairer II
Heavy Bridge Section
Construction and Maintenance**



**Ray Baker, Area Headquarters Attendant
Grant County maintenance crew
District Two**



**Mark Abbott, Construction Aide I
Little Rock residency, District Six**

AHTD OUTDOORS



**Bill Turner, Area Headquarters Attendant
Cleveland County maintenance crew
District Seven**



**Teddy Walton, right, Motor Patrol Operator
Grant County maintenance crew, District Two
and grandson Dusty**



**Zack and Tyler Whitley
children of Wayne Whitley
Budget and Expenditure Controller
Fiscal Services**



**Janie Smyth, Construction Aide II
Harrison residency, District Nine**



**Mike Bryant, Crew Leader
Union County maintenance crew, District Seven**



**Euclid Elliott, Lead Person
Union County maintenance crew
District Seven**



**Joann, Kristy and Tiffany England
family of Wayne England
Sign Crew Supervisor, Traffic**



**Bob Gossett, Materials Technician IV
Materials**



**Don Hudson
Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator
Bradley County maintenance crew
District Seven**



**James Edward Cheek
grandson of Johnny Cheek
Area Maintenance Supervisor
Lonoke County maintenance crew, District Six**



**Mona Struble, General Secretary
Programs and Contracts**



**ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY
& TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**
Post Office Box 2261
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203-2261
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

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

