

The AHTD

CENTERLINE

VOLUME 7, NUMBER 11 • NOVEMBER 25, 1998

Flowers Elected President of AASHTO

Department Director Dan Flowers was elected President of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) for 1999 during the organization's annual meeting November 6-10, in Boston, Massachusetts.

Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman Herby Branscum, Jr. of Perryville, believes Flowers is deserving of the job. "This is a distinctive honor for the State of Arkansas and a personal tribute to Dan Flowers for his outstanding leadership as Director of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department and to the transportation industry," Branscum said.

AASHTO Executive Director Francis Francois said, "Dan Flowers has many years experience dealing with the transportation issues addressed by AASHTO. He served this past year as our Vice President and as Chairman of the Reauthorization Steering Committee. We look forward to great accomplishments for the nation's transportation system during his administration."



AHTD Director Dan Flowers accepts the President's gavel from outgoing president David Winstead of the Maryland Department of Transportation.

Cafeteria Plan Enrollment

On November 16 the Department distributed enrollment forms for participation in the 1999 Cafeteria Plan. The completed forms should be returned to the Fiscal Services Division by December 4, 1998.

For employees not familiar with the plan, each employee is allowed to tailor eligible benefits to their specific needs. The plan allows employees to take advantage of current tax laws which permit payment of certain expenses with pre-tax dollars. Among the options employees may select are insurance premiums, medical expenses and dependent care items. By enrolling in this plan, FICA (Social Security), Federal and State income tax deductions are reduced because "gross" pay is reduced by the amount withheld. However, gross pay is not reduced for purposes of figuring retirement system deductions or benefits.

The Cafeteria Plan is voluntary. Employees are under no obligation to participate. If you choose not to participate, your present benefits and health coverage will not be jeopardized.

Service Recognition Payments

The Arkansas State Highway Commission has authorized the Career Service Recognition payments for 1998, according to Department Director Dan Flowers.

"Act 566 of 1991 authorizes the payments to all state employees with ten (10) or more years of service," Flowers said. All eligible Department employees will receive a lump-sum

payment with the paychecks received today. The Service Recognition payment is a separate check and will not be deposited into bank accounts of employees who utilize direct deposit.

All Social Security, Federal and State income taxes will be withheld from the payment. The amount received will not be counted as income for

purposes of figuring retirement benefits; therefore, retirement deductions will not be withheld.

This payment is based on total years of state service as of December 31, 1998. The amount of payment follows:

10 through 14 years....	\$300
15 through 19 years....	\$400
20 through 24 years....	\$500
25 years and over.....	\$600

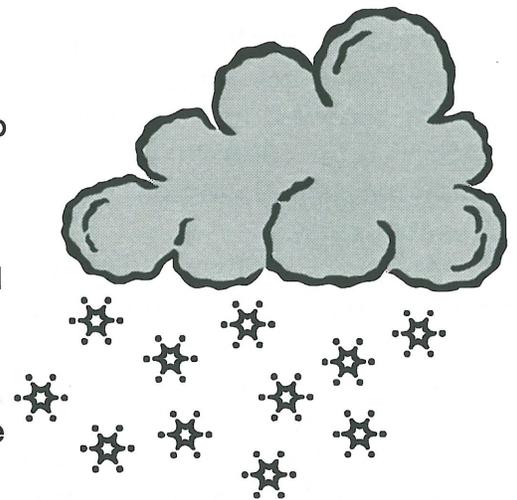
Inclement Weather Policy

In the event Department employees are excused by official action due to inclement weather, the following policy is in effect: Official media notice to state agencies will apply to AHTD employees except designated essential personnel.

The Inclement Weather Policy excuses employees from work until 10:00 a.m. unless specified by official

media notice. Employees who report to work after the excused time will be charged leave calculated between the excused time and their arrival time. Employees who do not report to work at all will be charged for a full day's leave.

Sick leave or annual leave may be utilized for inclement weather. Leave without pay will be utilized for employees who are temporary, part-time



or in an exhausted leave status.

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**ARKANSAS
STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION**
HERBY BRANSCUM, JR., CHAIRMAN
JOHN "M" LIPTON, VICE CHAIRMAN
BOBBY HOPPER
J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD
MARY P. "PRISSY" HICKERSON

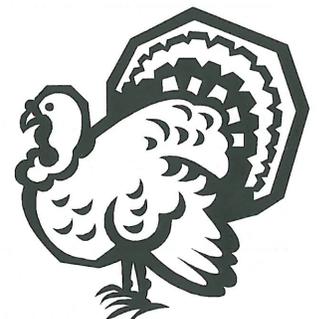
DAN FLOWERS
DIRECTOR OF
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

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Thanksgiving Holidays

Thursday, November 26 and Friday, November 27 are state holidays for Highway and Transportation Department employees in observance of Thanksgiving. All work will be suspended except for cases of emergency.

The members of the Arkansas State Highway Commission and Director wish you and your family a happy Thanksgiving.



Expense Account Reimbursements Now Eligible For Direct Deposit

Effective immediately all employees are eligible to have their expense accounts electronically deposited into their bank accounts. However, the employee must currently be active in the AHTD payroll direct deposit system. Use the revised form 19-103 "Reimbursement for Travel and Other Expenses" that is in the on-line network forms in Microsoft Word. If you wish to have an expense account direct deposited, check the newly added box in the upper left corner of the form when completing your expense reimbursement form.

This procedure must be followed on every expense account form you submit for electronic payment. If there are further questions, contact the Fiscal Services Division, Receipts and Disbursements Section at 501-569-2506.

Form F19-103

AHTD Employees that are Active in the Payroll Direct Deposit System and wish to have this Expense Payment Electronically Deposited into their Bank Account. Please check here.

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION Reimbursement For Travel and O

MEALS AND LODGING						
DATE	BREAK-FAST	LUNCH	DINNER	TOTAL MEALS	CITY & STATE OF LODGING	ROOM AMOUNT
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			

AHTD Heart Walk Team In Top 10

Caring and giving have always been two of the characteristics that AHTD employees have exhibited throughout the years. The American Heart Walk of the American Heart Association was no exception.

Seventeen AHTD employees collected over \$2,065 for walking the 5K course in Little Rock on October 24. The total donations were enough to place the team in the top 10 donations out of 144 teams. A total of 1,500 walkers participated. The Department team finished fifth in the annual event.

Walkers included Team Captains Mike Limbird and Brenda Walden as well as Marilyn Boyles, Margaret

Donnelly, Kim Ford, Pat Ioup, Terry Kirtley, Rodney Mazander, Margarita Olive, Keith Powell, Linda Price, Claire Rita Rockwell,

Barbara Shell, Garren Stewart, LynAnne Taylor, Gwen Vernon, and Carolyn Yancy.

Corrections

Apologies to Lt. Col. Larry Boccarossa and Major Shawn Foust of the U. S. Army Reserves for incorrectly identifying them in the last **Centerline** as being members of the Arkansas National Guard. Foust, who is Patrol Officer First Class with the Arkansas Highway Police, and Boccarossa presented AHTD Director Dan Flowers with an award from the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserves. Foust and Boccarossa are both

members of the 431st Civil Affairs Battalion of the U. S. Army Reserves.

Also, the names of three AHTD employees were inadvertently left off the list of volunteers who helped staff the AHTD booth at this year's Arkansas State Fair. Wanda Bynum, Patricia Slater and Louise Watts helped at the Fair but were left out of the article in the last **Centerline**. Thanks to all who assisted, and our apologies to those whose names were left off the initial list.

AHTD PEOPLE



NOVEMBER 1998

NEW EMPLOYEES

Human Resources

Rohnald Brown, General Laborer;
Beverly Beck, Mail Clerk

Materials

Patrick Morris, Materials Tech. I

Maintenance

Anthony Eggerson, **Marcus Johnson**,
Sign Makers I; **Randall Callahan**, Single
Axle Truck Driver

District 2

Mario Boyd, Mechanic; **Barron
Johnson**, General Laborer; **Jay McGriff**,
Single Axle Truck Driver

District 3

David Lively, II, General Laborer;
Ronald Hughes, Single Axle Truck Dr.

District 4

Patricia Kiddy, General Laborer

District 5

Jason Seaton, Single Axle Truck Driver

District 6

Lisa McClinton, **Leonard Stokes**, **Roy
Daniels**, **Jeremy Jackson**, **Rose Ross**,
General Laborers; **Stephanie Taggart**,
Field Clerk I

District 8

Leodis McDaniel, **Mark Powell**,
Angela Garner, **Tonya Emerson**,
Jimmy Jackson, General Laborers

PROMOTIONS

Computer Services

Elmarie Barnes, Data Base Librarian;
Judy Manes, Administrative Officer III

Environmental

Jeff Ingram, Beautification Coordinator II

Highway Police

Ronnie Anderson, Captain; **Casey
Hansen**, Patrol Officer First Class

Maintenance

James Hall, Pavement Profiler Opr.;
Roger Mahan, Inspector

Roadway Design

Jennifer Williams, Adv. Design Engr.

District 1

William Ball, Motor Patrol Opr.; **Johnny
Light**, Paver Opr.; **Vickie Nelson**, Roller
Opr.

District 2

Edward Kirkham, Backhoe/Front End
Loader Opr.

District 3

Stanley Rogers, Hydraulic Excavator
Opr./Finish

District 4

Hope Rogers, Rest Area Attendant

District 5

Keith Foushee, Maintenance Aide I;
James Merriman, Jr., Distributor/Roller
Opr.

District 6

Beverly Gaston, Multi-Axle Truck Dr.;
William Lindsey, Inspector

District 7

Kenneth Doherty, Mechanic; **Cameron
Forbush**, Paver Opr.; **Reginald
Porchia**, Distributor/Roller Opr.;
Therese Purifoy, Multi-Axle Truck
Driver; **Marty Seale**, Backhoe/Front End
Loader Opr.

District 9

Bradley Potter, Backhoe/Front End
Loader Opr.

District 10

Kenneth Stapler, Maintenance Aide II

SERVICE

35 Years

Samuel Kizer, D-8 Constr. Proj. Coord.

30 Years

Garland Ashley, Jr., Staff Bridge
Design Engineer; **Danny Moore**, Maint.
Sr. Traffic Investigator; **Kenneth Oxford**,
D-9 Area Maint. Supv.; **Jesse Dial**, D-10
Motor Patrol Operator/Finish

25 Years

Tom Ballard, Bridge Structural Detailer;
George Brown, AHP Sergeant; **Louis
Bryant**, Materials Chemist III; **Larry
Newman**, P&R Cartographer Supervisor;
Rayburn Gipson, D-8 Distributor/Roller
Opr.; **Michael Norton**, D-8 Motor Patrol
Operator/Finish; **Robert Clark**, D-9
Multi-Axle Truck Driver; **Donald Spen-
cer**, D-9 Construction Aide II; **Garry
Toombs**, D-10 Motor Patrol Operator/
Finish

20 Years

Donald Thomas, D-4 Inspector; **Edwin
Chaney**, D-5 Distributor/Roller Opr.; **Roy
Harris**, D-7 Rest Area Attendant;
Michael Nelson, D-7 Welder; **Jeffrey**

Stroud, D-9 Asst. Resident Engineer;
Harold McElduff, D-10 Const. Aide III

15 Years

Glendal Floyd, AHP Corporal; **Mitzi
Dunn**, P&C Office Administrative
Assistant III; **Reda Webb**, ROW Office
Administrative Assistant III; **Scott Mullis**,
D-2 Construction Engineer; **Curtis Hill**,
D-3 Multi-Axle Truck Driver

10 Years

Sue Luce, E&P Office Administrative
Assistant I; **Carol Ward**, Human Re-
sources Office Administrative Assistant
V; **Kevin Purifoy**, Communications
Maintenance Specialist; **Troy Tims**, D-1
Maintenance Aide I; **Carnel Coleman**,
D-1 Multi-Axle Truck Driver; **Ernest
Schlaefli**, D-4 Construction Aide I; **Jerry
Atchley**, D-6 Construction Helper II;
Lonnie Murry, D-6 Senior Mechanic;
Curtis Aud, D-7 Maintenance Aide II;
Neil Ford, D-8 Area Maintenance
Supervisor

5 Years

Teri McConnell, E&P Office Administra-
tive Assistant I; **Samantha Bart**, Human
Resources Personnel Auditing Clerk;
James Barte' Jr., D-1 Resident Office
Technician; **Felecia Spicer**, D-2 Area
Headquarters Attendant; **Joann Gra-
ham**, D-2 Maintenance Aide I; **Jimmy
Kendall, Jr.**, D-2 Mechanic; **James
Lamb**, D-3 Distributor/Roller Opr.;
Margaret Johnston, D-4 Maintenance
Aide I; **Ronald Gragson**, D-6 Street
Sweeper Opr.; **Deborah Purifoy**, D-7
Multi-Axle Truck Driver

RETIREMENTS

Thomas Hollis, District 7 Lowboy or
Float Truck Driver, retired September 8
with 25+ years service.

James Brown, Highway Police Captain,
retired October 9 with 34+ years service.

Harry Snowden, Highway Police
Corporal, retired October 19 with 9+
years service.

Sammy Horton, District 2 Motor Patrol
Operator, retired October 23 with 25+
years service.

Melvin Phillips, District 2 Area Mainte-
nance Supervisor, retired October 2 with
28+ years service.

Robert Cardin, District 2 Backhoe/Front
End Loader Operator, retired October 1
with 12 years service.