



Center Line

Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department • May 18, 2006

2006 EQUIPMENT

OPERATORS ROADEO SEMI-FINALS

		Tractor/ Lowboy	Tandem Axle Dump Truck	Single Axle Dump Truck	Tractor/ Mower	Backhoe	Motor Patrol
DISTRICT FIVE April 13, 2006	1ST PLACE	Elvis Garrett	Ronny Majors	Mona Fry	John Harness	Billy Clemons	Willie McCord
	2ND PLACE	Jimmy Eldridge	Evan Higginbottom	Quinn Whitelow	Charles Wallace	Tim Hurtt	Bryant Cain
	3RD PLACE	Daniel Recker	Ruth Moody	James Moody	Calvin Leonard	Dan Yates	John Rodgers
DISTRICT FOUR April 20, 2006	1ST PLACE	Terral Scroggins	Lionel Elder	Yvonne Blair	Billy Horne	Mark Williams	Kenneth Gentry
	2ND PLACE	Danny Loyd	Bradley McCurry	Anita Jordan	Dustin Higgins	Eric Brigrance	Kent Little
	3RD PLACE	Marcus Standridge	Bobby Dean	Brandon Bowen	Wesley McRae	Dan Mowrey	Allen James
DISTRICT TEN April 27, 2006	1ST PLACE	James Clark	Tony Ruhl	Todd Clifford	Jordan Wicker	Rick Hale	Dustin Miller
	2ND PLACE	Gary Pruitt	Shalane Swafford	Sammy Parrish	David Wagster	Matt Larue	Gerald Ellis
	3RD PLACE	Jimmy Smith	Monte Smith	Katherine Griffin	Jason Orrick	Heath Eubanks	Anthony Williams
DISTRICT THREE May 4, 2006	1ST PLACE	Reginald Easter	Neal Price	Jim Bob Lamb	Richard Colbert	David Morton	Eugene Greenwood
	2ND PLACE	Steven Muldrew	Stanley Rogers	Debo Ricks	Dawin Rosenbaum	Rodney Shelton	Billy Langston
	3RD PLACE	Don Langston	Bobby Sharp	Rick Williams	Bucky Sawyer	Donald Stone	Weldon Garrison
DISTRICT NINE May 11, 2006	1ST PLACE	David Gault	Joey Fierro	Scott Willis	Kirk Watts	Roy Bryant	Terry Eidson
	2ND PLACE	Jeff Upton	Misty Barber	Brad Cline	Cam Whitney	Bobby Kelley	Howard Farmer
	3RD PLACE	Denton James	Jeff Myatt	Zane Green	Jeff Hudgens	Scott Willis	Lance Baker

The Finals will take place at the Central Office on June 1st. Results will be published in the June CenterLine.

2006

GRADUATES IN THIS ISSUE!

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Employee: Shirley Lewis

Job Position: Office Administrative Assistant, District Four.

Length of Service: I began work at the AHTD on May 18, 1987, so I have almost 19 years with the Department now.

Job Duties: Under the supervision of the District Engineer, I perform clerical assistance for District management. Although just recently promoted to this position, I am familiar with many of the basic job duties

including maintaining construction job files, typing and distributing correspondence, sorting and distributing mail, and other general office duties to assist the District Staff. I am looking forward to learning much more in this position. My previous position was as District Bookkeeper. As Bookkeeper, I performed duties such as posting and recording transactions relating to the District budget as well as Special Project jobs, reconciling monthly computer runs against various journals and providing expenditure data to District management for budget forecasting purposes.

Favorite part of the job: We have some of the nicest people in District Four. I always enjoy seeing them and visiting with them about their families.

Background at AHTD: I started in 1987 working in the front office as a seasonal employee while attending the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith. I transferred to the Storeroom and worked as a Stock Clerk, then as the Assistant Storeroom Supervisor. I transferred to District Bookkeeper in 1991, and just recently transferred to my new position, Office Administrative Assistant.

Family: I married my best friend, Ron. We've been together for twelve years.

Hobbies/Interests: I enjoy working in the yard and the garden. After that, any free time I have gets devoted to playing ball with our two Jack Russell Terriers, Maddog and Rebel.

Highway History



Federal, state and local dignitaries gathered January 8, 1999, to officially dedicate Interstate 540 and the Bobby Hopper Tunnel.



Memorial Day Holiday

Monday, May 29, 2006, will be a holiday for AHTD employees in observance of Memorial Day. Work will be suspended statewide except for cases of emergency.

James Moore Recognized with CEMBA Award



James Moore (center) receives the Impact Award from (left) Charles King, President of the Arkansas Regional Minority Supplier Development Council (ARMSDC) and (right) Odies Wilson, III, Chair of the ARMSDC Board of Directors and Director of Inter-Government Affairs for the City of Little Rock.

James Moore, Section Head for the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's Equal Employment Opportunity/Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (EEO/DBE) section, recently received an Impact Award at the Second Annual Corporate Executive Minority Business Award (CEMBA) program.

The Impact Award is presented to an individual who works to make a change within an organization, understands the importance of minority business development and successfully works to implement second tier subcontracting opportunities.

The red carpet event was sponsored by the Arkansas Regional Minority Supplier Development Council at the Women's City Center in Little Rock on April 20th.

Assistant Chief Auditor Johnny Parks, Internal EEO Coordinator Wanda Ashley, External EEO Coordinator Dana McClellan and DBE Program Specialist Camille Moyer also represented the Department at the event.

"I am thankful that the U.S. Department of Transportation and the AHTD have ensured that minority and female-owned firms have an opportunity to participate in the highway construction industry. I'm also thankful that the minority community in Arkansas has recognized the Department for our efforts," stated Moore.

Retirement Board Nominations

Nominations are now being accepted to fill a spot on the AHTD Retirement Board. Employees will receive a nomination ballot in the mail to specify a nominee to replace Teddy Widner, whose term ends next month.

Employee members will nominate a fellow employee. An election ballot will be mailed to all members after the nominating vote tabulation.

Current AHTD Retirement Board Members:

- Bob Walters, Chairman, Member*
- Teddy Widner, Vice-Chairman, Member
- Scott Bennett, Member
- William Tyler, Retiree Member
- Larry Dickerson, Executive Secretary*

*These board positions coincide with the job titles of Chief Engineer and Chief Fiscal Officer, respectively.

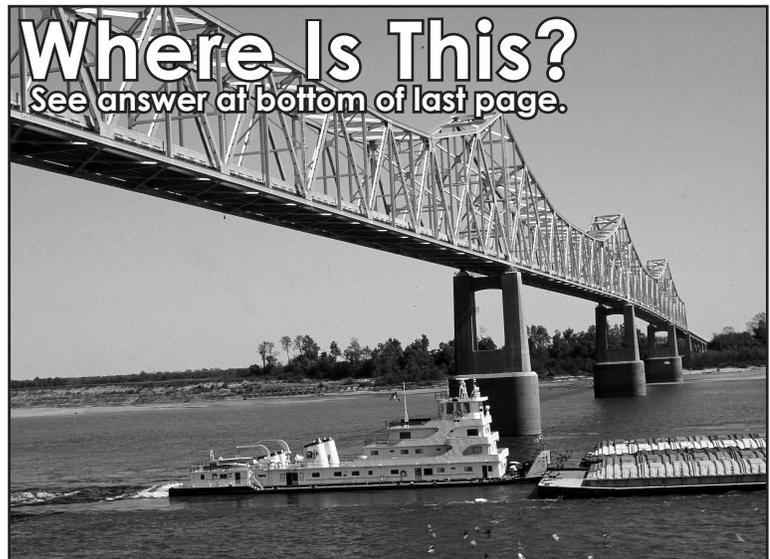
Team AHTD Completes Heart Walk 2006



A team of thirteen Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department staff members participated in the American Heart Association's Central Arkansas Heart Walk on April 22nd. The event took place at North Little Rock's Riverfront Park. AHTD team members walked a 5K route and raised over \$1,500 to help in the fight against heart disease and stroke.

Clockwise from top left:

- (l. to r.) Norma Johnson and Shandale Smith
- (l. to r.) Carrie Moore, John Wood and Larry Lanes
- (l. to r.) Lakela Jackson and Janette Thompson
- (l. to r.) McGruff the Crime Dog, Tanya Lundberg and Terri Moore with son Ian.



Where Is This?
See answer at bottom of last page.

Love of Singing Leads To Role in Play

For Emily Boggs, Accounting Assistant in the Fiscal Services Division, singing has always been something she has enjoyed. She has even directed musical plays with the children at her church for several years.

Last year, Boggs was contacted by the outdoor production "The Witness" and was asked to do a pre-show concert, and that has led to bigger opportunities.

"I did the Friday and Saturday night concerts during the Wild Hog Motorcycle Rally because I am in the music ministry of the Christian Motorcyclist Association. Afterwards, the Director asked me if I would be interested in being a member of the production cast. I thought about it and turned my application in and was accepted for this season."

The production of "The Witness" is done outside in an amphitheatre in Hot Springs and involves adults, children and some live animals. The season will keep Boggs busy for a while as it is performed every weekend beginning May 26 and continuing through October 7.

"I'm not assigned a particular role yet," states Boggs. "Because of the length of the season, at least three to five people train for each part. I have requested to try out for three solo, non-talking parts that are within my vocal range."

In addition to doing the show every weekend, Boggs is also scheduled to do three weekends of pre-show concerts this year where she will do solos of her choice.

Rehearsing for the production is now a part of Boggs's daily routine. "We rehearse two nights a week in the open air amphitheatre. We all have tapes we practice with at home."

The Witness Productions came to Hot Springs 26 years ago and they have performed the musical drama every May through October since that time.

Asked if she would like to do more acting in the future, Boggs replies, "I don't really have a desire to do more acting, I like to sing from my heart and acting is second to that."



AHTD employee Emily Boggs performs in "The Witness" each weekend from May 26 through October 7.

AHTD staff members interested in seeing "The Witness" can call 501-623-9781 for information on tickets, employee discounts and directions.

Prescription Drug Changes Coming

Effective July 1, 2006, Celebrex and Mobic will no longer be covered under the prescription drug plan. Celebrex is classified as an Analgesic, Cox-2 Inhibitor medication and Mobic is an NSAID (non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug).

Celebrex and Mobic removed from the Rx formulary in favor of generic forms such as ibuprofen and naproxen.

They are generally prescribed for the relief of joint pain and swelling associated with arthritis, sprains and strains, and for the treatment of primary dysmenorrhea. The State and Public School Employees Life and Health Insurance Board met on March 28, 2006, and voted to remove Celebrex and Mobic from

the prescription drug formulary. Studies indicate that traditional NSAIDs are just as effective as Celebrex and Mobic. Generic forms of these medications such as ibuprofen and naproxen will remain on the formulary in the first tier with a \$10 co-pay for a month's supply.

The Employee Benefits Division will be developing an appeal process for all drugs that are not covered on the formulary. Information regarding this process will be provided in future issues of the *CenterLine*, as well as in an upcoming edition of the *EBD Buzz* newsletter.

For more information on employee benefits, visit www.arbenefits.org



District 10: Receiving 10-year service awards were (l. to r.) Robert Losh, Roller Operator; Darrell Campbell, Crane Operator-Finish; Larry McKinney, Senior Mechanic.



District 4: Receiving safety awards were (l. to r.) Dean Nichols, Resident Engineer #41, 3 years; Jeff Stroud, Resident Engineer #43, 1 year; and John Sharum, Resident Engineer #42, 1 year.



District 10: Receiving 5-year service awards were (l. to r.) Jeffery Rawls, Bridge Repairer I; Elaine Bryant, Maintenance Aide I; James Green, Maintenance Aide I; Jack Wolf, Senior Mechanic; Terri Inman, Resident Office Tech.



District 3: (l. to r.) Jason Efirid, Resident Engineer, presents Johnny Johnson, Construction Aide III, with his 5-year service award.



Right of Way/State Aid: (l. to r.) Linda Lewis, Administrative Assistant V, and Randy Lewis, Section Head - Acquisition, are the first husband and wife to retire together from the Department.



District 7: (l. to r.) Dannie Launius, District Office Manager, presents Betty Sindle, Fuel Clerk, with her 15-year service award.



District 7: (l. to r.) Dannie Launius, District Office Manager, presents Rhonia Krisell, Personnel Clerk, with her 10-year service award.



District 3: (l. to r.) Jason Efirid, Resident Engineer, presents Chuck Tallman, Senior Inspector, with his 20-year service award.



District 4: William "H" Boswell, Senior Mechanic, received his 20-year service award.

District 8: The District's local Rodeo competition held April 6, 2006, yielded the following results:



TRACTOR LOWBOY (l. to r.) 1st - Darrell Barnes, 2nd - Paul Charton, 3rd - Glen Chavers



SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK (l. to r.) 1st - Jay Rankin, 2nd - Paul Burris, 3rd - Danny Parker



BACKHOE (l. to r.) 1st - Larry Brazil, 2nd - Paul Charton, 3rd - Kris Parish



TANDEM AXLE DUMP TRUCK (l. to r.) 1st - David Pruitt, 2nd - Steve Pierce, 3rd - Kenny Howard



TRACTOR MOWER (l. to r.) 1st - John Crawford, 2nd - Robby Strother, 3rd - Randy Tankersley



MOTOR PATROL (l. to r.) 1st - Dennis Langston, 2nd - Danny Gardner, 3rd - Rick Mabry



District 2: (l. to r.) Jeff Hart, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, presents Kelly Fields, Electric, Plumbing & Mechanical Repairer, with his 10-year service award.



District 2: (l. to r.) Jeff Hart, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, presents George Patterson, Senior Mechanic, with his 20-year service award.



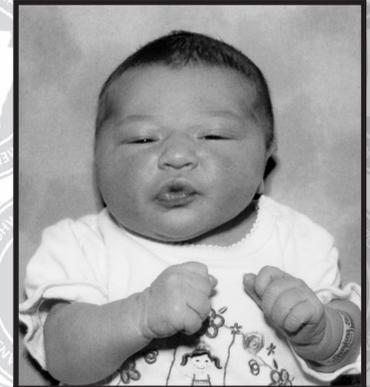
Bridge: (l. to r.) Phil Brand, Division Head, presents Charlie Hart, Bridge Management Engineer, with his 25-year service award.



District 2: Receiving service awards were (l. to r.) Johnny Williams, Bridge Repairer I, 5 years; David Hutchins, Bridge Job Superintendent, presenting; and Johnny Brown, Bridge Repairer II, 10 years.



District 8: Receiving service awards were (l. to r.) Caroll Van Dalsen, Inspector, 35 years; Tim Henry, Assistant Resident Engineer, 20 years; and Bill Fine, Resident Engineer, 25 years.



District 9: Zoe Marie Watts was born March 7, 2006, to James K. Watts, Distributor/Roller Operator.



District 6: Sharpe Ring, son of Aaron Ring, Maintenance Aide II, celebrated his 1st birthday on May 2, 2006.



District 9: Ricky Dodson, Crew Leader, shows off his granddaughter, Annalise Dodson, born March 2, 2006.



District 7: Clifford Mason Childers was born October 28, 2005, to Mathew and Tracy Childers. Grandparents are Clifford Childers, Area Maintenance Supervisor, and wife Robby.



District 2: Owen French Morrison was born January 17, 2006, to Charlie Morrison, Bridge Repairer II, and wife April.



Heavy Bridge Maintenance: Nicole LaPree Jones, daughter of Kennedy Ezell, Bridge Repairer I, graduated from the University of Central Arkansas May 6, 2006, with a major in Psychology, and a 3.2 GPA.



Fiscal Services: Laura Marchese, granddaughter of Judy Marchese, Data Entry Operator, will graduate from Lakeside High and plans to attend the University of Central Arkansas.



District 1: (l. to r.) David Luster and grandson Cody L. Adams show off Cody's first deer kill from his first-ever hunt. David and Cody are husband and grandson to Juanita Luster, Resident Office Tech.



District 10: 15-year-old Ethan Clark, son of Randy Clark, District Bridge Inspector, killed this 21-pound turkey with ten-inch beard and one -inch spurs in Izard County.



NEW EMPLOYEES

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE
Sharon Doss-Robinson, Motor Carr. Saf. Spec. I

CONSTRUCTION
Clay Richardson, Construction Helper I, RE 05
Jennifer Powell, Construction Helper I, RE 06

ENVIRONMENTAL
Regina Pack, Office Administrative Assistant I

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS
Dwan Moore, Reproduction Operator

DISTRICT 2
Wallace Simmons, Sgl. Axle Tr. Dr., Arkansas Co.

DISTRICT 5
Walton Fulks, Single Axle Truck Driver, Stone Co.

DISTRICT 6
Lindsey Smith, General Laborer, Prairie Co.

DISTRICT 7
Joshua Lucas, Single Axle Truck Dr., Union Co.
Christina Mitchell, General Laborer, Union Co.

DISTRICT 8
Will Lang, Janitor
David Duncan, General Laborer, Yell Co.

DISTRICT 9
Melvin Duncan, Single Axle Tr. Dr., Benton Co.

PROMOTIONS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE
Patricia Brown, Administrative Aide II

HUMAN RESOURCES
Larry Copeland, Single Axle Truck Driver
Mark Mason, Single Axle Truck Driver

MAINTENANCE
Mark Headley, Section Head – Facilities Mgmt.

RIGHT OF WAY
Scott Wroten, Reviewing Appraiser

ROADWAY DESIGN
Keli Higginbotham, Advanced Design Engineer

DISTRICT 1
Edith Riley, Fuel Clerk

DISTRICT 2
Gerald Butcher, Area Maint. Supv., Drew Co.
Thomas Green, Construction Aide I, RE 23
Franklin Long, Lowboy/Float Tr. Dr., Statewide
Johnathan Mormon, Asst. Resident Engr., RE 24

DISTRICT 3
Ala Mae Flenory, Office Admin. Assistant V
Selu Kelesoma, Sgl. Axle Tr. Dr., Hempstead Co.
Mindy King, Construction Aide I, RE 31

DISTRICT 4
Sidney Hunt, Senior Inspector, RE 41
Danny Brown, Jr., Inspector, RE 42
Gary Greene, Senior Inspector, RE 42
Jerry Trotter, Single Axle Truck Dr., Franklin Co.
Frederick Brouse, Maint. Aide II, Sebastian Co.

DISTRICT 5
Jonathan Bacon, Construction Aide II, RE 53
Lindsey Jasper, Rest Area Att., Independence Co.
William Jernigan, Inspector, RE 53
Dwane Thompson, Lowb./Float Tr. Dr., Statewide
Janice Wright, Single Axle Truck Dr., Izard Co.

DISTRICT 6
Mark Crumpton, Inspector, RE 64
James Hogan, Inspector, RE 61
Alton Pack, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pulaski Co.
Robert Phillips, Maintenance Aide II, Pulaski Co.
Michael Ricardo, Construction Helper II, RE 65
Kenjuan Washington, Sgl. Axle Tr. Dr., Pulaski Co.

DISTRICT 7
Jim Branch, Inspector, RE 74
Eddy McKelvy, Senior Mechanic, Statewide
Jeff Turner, Motor Patrol Opr.-Finish, Statewide

DISTRICT 8
Keith Goff, Advanced Const. Field Engr., RE 84
Walter Gunn, Construction Aide II, RE 84
Ora Helton, Area Headquarters Att., Pope Co.
Bobby Ward, Construction Aide II, RE 84

DISTRICT 10
Charles Childs, Sgl. Axle Tr. Dr., Mississippi Co.

SERVICE AWARDS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE
Michael Bounds, Corporal, 20 yrs.
Bobby Cordle, Sergeant, 25 yrs.
Don Hastings, Captain, 35 yrs.
Elizabeth Warren, Sergeant, 25 yrs.

BRIDGE
Charles Hart, Bridge Mgmt. Engineer, 25 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION
Brian Bratcher, Inspector, RE 55, 15 yrs.
Johnny Harvey, Senior Insp., RE 61, 30 yrs.
Lotis Horton, Jr., Senior Insp., RE 92, 35 yrs.
J.S. Stevenson, Senior Insp., RE 84, 25 yrs.
Charles Tallman, Jr., Senior Insp., RE 31, 20 yrs.

DIRECTOR
Jimmie Sneed, Admin. Assistant I, 10 yrs.

ENVIRONMENTAL
Clint Hutcheson, Env. Analyst III, 10 yrs.
Steven Imhoff, Env. Analyst I, 5 yrs.

SURVEYS
Anthony Cunningham, Surveys Aide III, 10 yrs.
Paul Womack, Surveys Crew Chief, 20 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION
Terri Inman, Resident Ofc. Tech., 5 yrs., RE 06
Robert Moore, Const. Field Engr. II, 5 yrs., RE 92

SURVEYS
Robert Blankenship, Surveys Technician II, 5 yrs.
Lee Kendrick, Land Surveyor I, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 1
Ronnie Johnson, Maintenance Aide I, 20 yrs.
Jimmy O'Dell, Sr. Body Repairer & Painter, 5 yrs.
Mark South, Senior Mechanic, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 2
Sherry Miesner, Personnel Clerk, 5 yrs.
Wanda Phillips, Fuel Clerk, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 3
Gary Collier, Bckh./Front End Loader Opr., 10 yrs.
Casey Johnson, Distrib./Roller Operator, 15 yrs.
Alvin Vaughn, Area Maint. Supervisor, 35 yrs.

DISTRICT 4
William Boswell, Senior Mechanic, 20 yrs.
Jerry Howe, Bridge Repairer I, 5 yrs.
Rick Law, Crew Leader, 25 yrs.
Mark Williams, Bridge Job Supt., 30 yrs.

DISTRICT 5
James Hall, Single Axle Truck Driver, 10 yrs.
Donald Osmon, Maintenance Aide II, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 6
John Ballinger, Bckh./Fr. End Loader Opr., 10 yrs.
Jason Berry, Maintenance Aide I, 10 yrs.
Vincent Turner, Bckh./Fr. End Loader Opr., 15 yrs.
Sonya Gentry, Rest Area Attendant, 5 yrs.
Joseph Wharton, Rest Area Attendant, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 7
Marvin Hunter, Maintenance Aide II, 30 yrs.
Louise McMahan, Office Admin. Asst. V, 30 yrs.

DISTRICT 8
Jack Bocksnick, Welder, 15 yrs.
Danny Duvall, Motor Patrol Opr.-Finish, 30 yrs.
David Forrester, Sr. Maintenance Aide II, 15 yrs.
Richard Keaster, Maintenance Aide II, 30 yrs.
Don Williams, Senior Mechanic, 20 yrs.
Jerry Williams, Area Maint. Supervisor, 35 yrs.

DISTRICT 9
Russell Morgan, Bckh./Fr. End Load. Opr., 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 10
Elaine Bryant, Maintenance Aide I, 5 yrs.
James Green, Maintenance Aide I, 5 yrs.
Robert Losh, Roller Operator, 10 yrs.
Jeffery Rawls, Bridge Repairer I, 5 yrs.
Jack Wolf, Senior Mechanic, 5 yrs.

RETIREMENTS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE
Ronald Elmore, First Lieutenant, 28+ yrs.

DISTRICT 1
Elbert Fobbs, Guard, 14+ yrs.

DISTRICT 4
Mary Bryant, Office Admin. Assistant V, 26+ yrs.
Charles Ross, Bridge, Repairer II, 28+ yrs.

DISTRICT 5
Chris Johnson, Maintenance Job Supt., 28+ yrs.
Donald Osmon, Maintenance Aide II, 20+ yrs.

DISTRICT 8
Larry Martin, Maintenance Aide II, 24+ yrs.
Robert Stithem, Maintenance Aide I, 28+ yrs.

DISTRICT 10
Harold White, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 35+ yrs.

MEMORIALS

EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT
Thurman H. Payne, 04/14/06, Retired

HIGHWAY POLICE
Albert B. Herrod, 04/16/06, Retired

PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS
Linwood D. Godfrey, 04/10/06, Retired
John N. Ball, 04/22/06, Retired

ROADWAY DESIGN
James C. Lowe, 04/16/06, Retired

DISTRICT 5
Thomas O. Story, 04/19/06, Retired

DISTRICT 7
Curtis D. Pierce, 04/08/06, Retired

DISTRICT 9
Huel D. Pack, 04/17/06, Retired

DISTRICT 10
Glen F. Easton, 04/23/06, Retired

MILITARY DUTY

As of 5/10/06, the AHTD had 3 employees serving active duty in the military. *Dates denote the deployment date.*

DISTRICT 1
R.M. Ferrell, Bckh./Fr. End Loader Opr., 1/02/06

DISTRICT 4
Nathan Reed, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 10/03/05

DISTRICT 6
Shirley Hammett, Area Hq. Attendant, 7/20/04

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Mary P. "Prissy" Hickerson, Chairman
Jonathan Barnett, Vice Chairman
Carl S. Rosenbaum, Member
R. Madison Murphy, Member
John Ed Regenold, Member

Dan Flowers, AHTD Director



Arkansas State Highway & Transportation Department
Public Affairs Office
P.O. Box 2261
Little Rock, AR 72203

Answer to "Where is This?"
Highway 49 Bridge crossing
the Mississippi River at Helena-
West Helena.