



# Center Line

Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department • July 27, 2006

## Roadcheck 2006 Promotes Safety

The largest targeted enforcement program on commercial vehicles in the world, Roadcheck 2006, took place in Arkansas and across North America June 6th through 8th.

Sponsored by the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance (CVSA), the annual three-day roadside inspection of commercial vehicles is now in its 19th year. It promotes safety and security on our highways by making sure commercial trucks and buses are in proper operating condition.

Over the 72-hour period beginning June 6th, certified inspectors at 1,850 roadside locations across North America performed a near record 60,357 truck and bus inspections. That is a total of 14 trucks or buses inspected every minute from Canada to Mexico.

Arkansas Highway Police (AHP) set up a checkpoint on Interstate 30 near Benton and had patrol units covering bypass routes. In addition, the Infrared Brake Inspection Van was set up on Highway 270 near Sheridan. A total of 430 inspections were performed at the locations in Arkansas with 99 vehicles being put out of service.

Results from Roadcheck 2006 are encouraging. The number of vehicles placed out of service or "parked" due to serious defects decreased significantly this year from 2005 in all major categories. In addition, a record number of CVSA decals, 30,950, were issued to vehicles passing the inspection without having any defects in the 13 critical inspection areas.

"The reduction in out-of-service violations and the increase in CVSA decals issued indicate that our safety inspection program is accomplishing its intended result, which is increasing the safety fitness of large trucks traveling our state's highways," said AHP Chief Ron Burks.

Safety belt use was one of the focus areas during this year's event. Though the number of drivers not wearing a belt was slightly higher than last year, the number comprises a small percentage ( 2.0 %) of the total drivers inspected.

"These roadside inspections have been a key factor in helping to reduce the large truck related fatality rate in the United States by nearly 50 percent in the last 20 years," stated CVSA Executive Director Stephen Campbell. "Placing emphasis on drivers is a key component to enhancing safety on our highways, and concentrated enforcement programs like Roadcheck give us the data we need to target our efforts."

The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance sponsors the annual Roadchecks with participation by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators, Transport Canada, and the Secretariat of Communications and Transportation (Mexico).



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Department and feel fortunate to have had that opportunity.

**Employee:** Kera Crowder, Office Administrative Assistant V, Fiscal Services Division, Central Office

**Length of service:** 19 years, 11 months.

**Job Duties:** My job duties include all division Payroll and Human Resources System entries, updating and maintaining division files, keeping office supply inventories at necessary levels, and paying division invoices. I also do various types of correspondence, reconciliation of the biennium budget for the legislative session and

verifying daily bank balances for the settlement of investment transactions for the Retirement System's portfolio.

**Favorite part of the job:** The best part of my job is that there is variety. It's not the same routine everyday. I've also been fortunate enough to work for and with a great group of people throughout my career. It's amazing how you can bond with people simply by working with them on a daily basis. We get our work done but keep it entertaining at the same time. I have met my closest friends while working here at the

**Background:** I was first employed at AHTD in the Personnel Office as a Seasonal Employee when I was in high school. Upon graduation, I was hired in the Programs & Contracts Office and worked there for four months. I was then hired back in Personnel and held several different positions during my nine years there. I tell people it's where I grew up and that it will always be home to me. However, I'm quite happy in my current position in Fiscal Services where I have been now for nine years too. I also worked in the Public Affairs office at one time.

**Family:** Single. One dog, Josie, and one cat, Peach Pie.

**Hobbies/Interests:** I enjoy playing golf, softball and bowling and do a lot of it. I also love spending time with my nephews Skyler and Brett.

## Retirement Board Results

Results of the recent Arkansas State Highway Employees Retirement System election have been tabulated and Teddy "Mark" Widner has been re-elected. This is a two-year term and will end in June of 2008.

Widner began with the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department as a Mechanic at the District Nine Headquarters in 1978. In 1979, he was promoted to Senior Mechanic and presently holds that position. This will be Widner's third consecutive two-year term.

Widner will serve on the board with Bob Walters, Chief Engineer; Scott Bennett, Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning; Larry Dickerson, Chief Fiscal Officer; Richard Weiss of the Department of Finance & Administration; and Gus Wingfield of the State Treasurer's Office. William Tyler is the retiree member of the board.

AHTD employees are encouraged to look over their recently-mailed statement from the Arkansas State Highway Employees Retirement System to see that all information included on the statement is correct.

## Highway Police Host Inspection Competition

The Arkansas Highway Police (AHP) held its Third Annual Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspection Competition on June 22nd in Springdale.

The competition includes police officers from across the state and focuses on promoting uniformity of inspection procedures used by our Highway Police. The event challenges officers by utilizing roadside scenarios. In addition, it provides the AHP staff with a snapshot of the current inspection environment and promotes camaraderie between inspectors across the state.

The competition consists of three inspection categories – Hazardous Materials, Motor Coach and Level One. In addition, a grand champion is also named.

**This year's top inspectors were:**

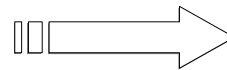
**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS –**  
CPL Randy Harrison

**MOTOR COACH –**  
CPL James "Buckie" Thomas

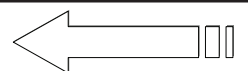
**LEVEL ONE –**  
CPL James "Buckie" Thomas

**GRAND CHAMPION –**  
CPL James "Buckie" Thomas

Thomas will represent the AHP and the State of Arkansas at the 2006 North American Inspector's Championship to be held August 14-20 in New Orleans.



*(l. to r.) AHP Chief Ron Burks presents CPL Randy Harrison with his award for inspection in the Hazardous Materials category.*



*(l. to r.) CPL James "Buckie" Thomas receives his award for inspection in the Motor Coach and Level One categories from AHP Chief Ron Burks.*

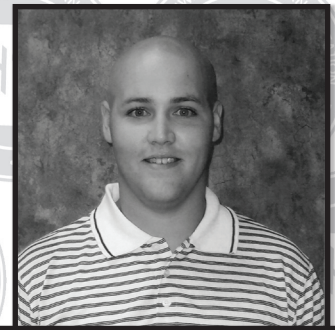
# AROUND THE DEPARTMENT



District 10: Stephen Troy Berry, born May 18, 2006, is the grandson of Linda Faulkenberry, Office Manager. Stephen weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and measured 21 inches long.



District 3: Gary Faulkner, Sign Crew Maintenance Aide II, received his 5-year service award.



District 10: Robert Scott Martin, General Laborer on the Greene County Crew, left for training for Iraq on July 5th with the Arkansas National Guard 875th Battalion.



District 2: (l. to r.) Ernie Westfall, Construction Engineer, presents Tim Kelly, Resident Engineer, with his 10-year service award.



Heavy Bridge Maintenance (HBM): Ann Prosper, Maintenance Management Analyst, (center) poses at her recent retirement party with (l. to r.) Pat Sullivan, Staff Maintenance Engineer; Garland Land, HBM Engineer; and Glenn Cheatham, Assistant HBM Engineer.



District 7: Bob Trawick, Shop Supervisor for District Seven, retired in June. Pictured (l. to r.) are wife Janie, Bob and their son, Jon, at Bob's retirement party.



District 3: (l. to r.) Don Donaldson, District Engineer, presents Alvin Vaughn, Area Maintenance Supervisor, with his 35-year service award.



Maintenance: (l. to r.) Mark Headley, Section Head - Facilities Management, receives his 15-year service award from David Lambert, State Maintenance Engineer.

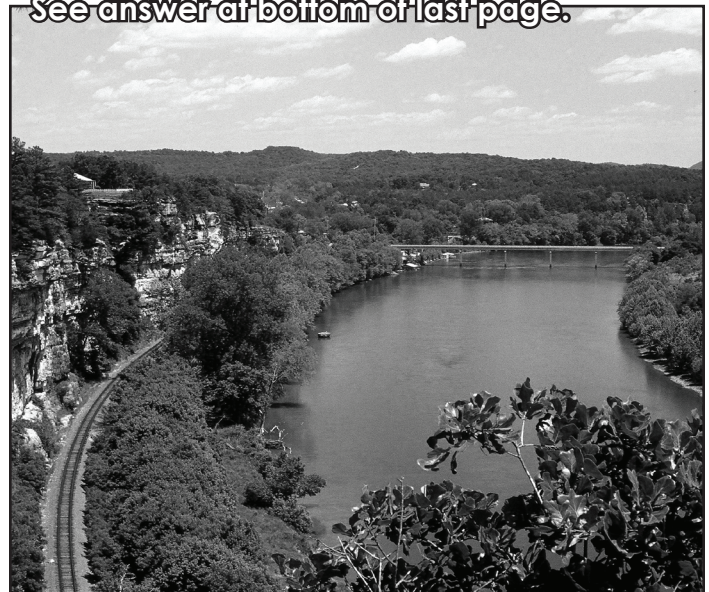


Maintenance: Garland Land, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, (l.) is pictured here with guests at his retirement party. He retired after 36+ years with the Department.

# Highway History



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



Interstate 40 and Highway 105 interchange at Atkins in Pope County. The interchange was completed in 1967.



## NEW EMPLOYEES

### CONSTRUCTION

Thuy Le, Construction Helper I, RE 94

### HUMAN RESOURCES

Mary Davis, Office Administrative Assistant I  
Evelyn Gowie, Office Administrative Assistant I

### MATERIALS

Sara Danchenko, Const. Materials Inspector

### DISTRICT 1

Stephen Dennis, Guard  
Victor Lopez, General Laborer, Statewide  
Danny Palmer, Single Axle Truck Driver, Monroe  
Teddy Wilson, Stripper Helper, Statewide

### DISTRICT 2

Brandon Bradley, General Laborer, Arkansas  
Lee Brown, General Laborer, Desha  
Boyce Cope, District Caretaker, Statewide  
James Jones, General Laborer, Ashley  
David May, Skill Trades Trainee, Statewide

### DISTRICT 3

Michael Miller, Single Axle Truck Driver, Nevada

### DISTRICT 6

Dustin Frankson, General Laborer, Pulaski  
Ronald Jones, General Laborer, Pulaski  
Howard Tripp, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pulaski  
Jimmy Walker, Single Axle Truck Driver, Pulaski

### DISTRICT 7

Charles Dilworth, General Laborer, Calhoun

### DISTRICT 8

Justin Huffman, Mechanic, Statewide  
Martin Jones, General Laborer, Johnson  
Michael Pew, Geotechnical Aide I, Pope

### DISTRICT 9

Harold Fisk, Single Axle Truck Driver, Carroll  
Gary Phillips, Single Axle Truck Driver, Madison

## PROMOTIONS

### COMPUTER SERVICES

David Bickell, Computer Technical Coordinator

### MAINTENANCE

Darrell Bradford, Paint Transp. Tr. Dr., Ouachita  
Kevin Brown, Paint Transp. Tr. Dr., Ouachita  
Gary Curtis, Striping Machine Driver, Ouachita  
Joe Peacock, Paint Transp. Tr. Dr., Ouachita  
Amanda Price, Maint. Management Analyst

### MATERIALS

Khari Withers, Materials Technician III

### PLANNING & RESEARCH

Kristie Keene, Office Administrative Assistant IV  
Donald McMillen, Fed. Transit Adm. Grants Ofcr.

### RIGHT OF WAY

Gregory Davis, Realty Appraiser/Negotiator

### ROADWAY DESIGN

Brian Bettinardi, Design Engineer  
Sharon Bowen, Administrative Officer II

### DISTRICT 1

Ben Butler, Maintenance Aide I, Crittenden  
Chris Crite, Maintenance Aide I, Crittenden  
Virgil Keeler, Backh./Front End Load. Opr., Cross  
Matthew Story, Multi-Axle Tr. Driver, Crittenden  
Richard Yocum, Const. Materials Insp., RE 13

### DISTRICT 3

Andy Boyd, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, Little River  
Chad Putman, Bridge Repairer I, Statewide

Sharon Still, District Bookkeeper  
Jeffrey Taylor, Maintenance Aide II, Nevada

### DISTRICT 4

Richard Gilmore, Bckh./Fr. End Load. Opr., Washington  
Jeremy Jackson, Single Axle Truck Dr., Logan  
Janet McElroy, District Bookkeeper  
Orvil Meyer, Dist./Roller Operator, Washington  
Tommy Towler, Multi-Axle Tr. Driver, Washington

### DISTRICT 5

Don Backus, Construction Helper II, RE 53  
Michael Lassiter, Maint. Job Supt., Statewide

### DISTRICT 6

Walter Diamond, Motorist Asst. Prov., Statewide

### DISTRICT 7

Kathy Daniel, Field Clerk II, RE 73  
Jerry Langley, Single Axle Truck Driver, Clark  
Christina Mitchell, Single Axle Tr. Driver, Union

### DISTRICT 8

Leonard Bradford, Maint. Aide I, Van Buren  
Mickey Hill, Maintenance Aide I, Perry  
Joseph Knight, Adv. Const. Field Engr., RE 86  
William Linton, Adv. Const. Field Engr., RE 86  
Tina Maynard, Maintenance Aide I, Van Buren  
Donald Rhodes, Multi-Axle Tr. Driver, Statewide

### DISTRICT 9

Dillard Fletcher, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, Benton  
Elizabeth Garner, Construction Aide I, RE 94  
Karen Hodge, Maintenance Aide I, Newton

### DISTRICT 10

C. Brasher, Const. Field Engineer II, RE 05  
Michael Wood, Const. Field Engineer II, RE 04

## SERVICE AWARDS

### ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Marcia Zeno, Administrative Assistant II, 15 yrs.

### CONSTRUCTION

Steven Anselmi, Const. Proj. Coord., RE 55, 35 yrs.  
Kenny Bowren, Asst. Res. Engr., RE 52, 20 yrs.  
Raymond Covey, Senior Insp., RE 55, 35 yrs.  
Glen Doss, Construction Aide II, RE 76, 10 yrs.  
Tim Kelly, Resident Engineer, RE 24, 10 yrs.  
Brad Langston, Inspector, RE 52, 5 yrs.  
Brian Powell, Const. Field Engr. II, RE 43, 10 yrs.  
Ed Thompson, Resident Engineer, RE 21, 35 yrs.  
Bobby Ward, Construction Aide II, RE 84, 15 yrs.

### ENVIRONMENTAL

Jeff Ingram, Beautification Coordinator II, 20 yrs.

### HUMAN RESOURCES

Melissa Doss, Office Admin. Assistant III, 15 yrs.

### MAINTENANCE

Danny Briggs, Heavy Bridge Maint. Supt., 30 yrs.  
Travis Evans, Pavement Profiler Opr., 10 yrs.  
Richard Newcomb, Comm. Maint. Spec., 5 yrs.  
Ronald Porter, Sign Crew Supervisor, 10 yrs.

### MATERIALS

Jon Annable, Staff Geotechnical Engineer, 25 yrs.

### PLANNING & RESEARCH

Thomas Baker, Data Collection Technician, 15 yrs.  
Danny Chidester, Transportation Planner, 10 yrs.  
Paul Simms, Staff Planning Engineer, 30 yrs.  
Ron Strickland, Transp. Study Coord., 20 yrs.

### PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS

Erica Michael, Prog. & Contr. Engineer I, 5 yrs.

### SURVEYS

Sam Johnson, Jr., Staff Surveys Engr., 25 yrs.  
Ilie Stefan, Surveys Aide II, 5 yrs.  
Ellen Williams, Surveys Aide II, 5 yrs.

### DISTRICT 1

Robert Astin, Maintenance Aide II, 10 yrs.  
Curtis Burnett, Distributor/Roller Operator, 5 yrs.  
Joey Henson, Roller Operator, 5 yrs.  
Robert Kilpatrick, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs.

### DISTRICT 2

Thomas Austin, Hydraulic Excav. Opr.-Fin., 5 yrs.  
Christopher Hunthrop, Senior Mechanic, 15 yrs.  
Brian Wells, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, 20 yrs.

### DISTRICT 3

Gary Faulkner, Maintenance Aide II, 5 yrs.  
Timothy Nolen, Maintenance Aide I, 15 yrs.

### DISTRICT 4

Bobby Bearden, Dozer Operator - Finish, 35 yrs.  
Ethan Gordon, Station Attendant II, 10 yrs.  
Edith Magee, Crew Leader, 15 yrs.

### DISTRICT 5

David Bailey, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, 15 yrs.  
Jason Candler, Distributor/Roller Operator, 5 yrs.  
Donald Harwood, Roller Operator, 20 yrs.  
Melvin Yates, District Bridge Inspector, 30 yrs.

### DISTRICT 6

Jerry Denley, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs.  
Harry Jobe, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, 30 yrs.  
William Taylor, Maintenance Aide I, 5 yrs.  
Melvin Wylie, Jr., Maintenance Aide II, 15 yrs.

### DISTRICT 7

Michael Bryant, Crew Leader, 30 yrs.  
Martha Flowers, Area Hq. Attendant, 5 yrs.  
Norman Freeman, Crew Leader, 20 yrs.  
Kenneth Wagoner, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs.

### DISTRICT 8

William Alvey, Area Maintenance Supv., 20 yrs.  
Kenneth Jackson, Motor Patrol Operator, 10 yrs.  
Brian Johnson, Bridge Repairer II, 10 yrs.  
Dawn Jones, Maintenance Aide II, 20 yrs.  
Joe Villalobos, Distributor Operator, 10 yrs.

### DISTRICT 9

Greg Criner, Lowboy Or Float Tr. Driver, 30 yrs.  
Randall Edgmon, Crew Leader, 20 yrs.  
Stacy Johnson, Backh./Fr. End Loader Opr., 15 yrs.  
Nickey Kimes, Guard, 15 yrs.  
Ernest Leonard, Area Hq. Attendant, 15 yrs.  
Loy Phillips, Senior Mechanic, 35 yrs.  
Archie Sappenfield, Parts Runner, 10 yrs.

### DISTRICT 10

Vickie Branum, Rest Area Attendant, 15 yrs.  
Chester Sanders, Rest Area Attendant, 10 yrs.  
Dallas Thurman, Dist./Roller Operator, 5 yrs.

## RETIREMENTS

### CONSTRUCTION

Oretta McCoy, Estimates Supervisor, 29+ yrs.

### ENVIRONMENTAL

Mike Webb, Sect. Head - Pub. Inv., 28+ yrs.

### EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT

Doug Nielsen, Division Head, 36+ yrs.

### LEGAL

Joanne Moren, Administrative Aide V, 16+ yrs.

### MAINTENANCE

Garland Land, Jr., Hvy. Br. Maint. Engr., 36+ yrs.

### PLANNING & RESEARCH

Paul Edwards, Sect. Head - Map'g & Grph., 41+ yrs.  
David Lumbert, Transp. Specialist, 19+ yrs.

### RIGHT OF WAY

Doug Thacker, Property Manager, 36+ yrs.

### STATE AID

Linda Lewis, Office Adm. Assistant V, 33+ yrs.

### DISTRICT 1

James Fingers, Rest Area Attendant, 6+ yrs.  
Billy Garland, Welder, 15+ yrs.  
Billy McGuire, Storeroom Supervisor, 27+ yrs.  
Mark Montgomery, Sr. Const. Mat. Insp., 28+ yrs.

### DISTRICT 2

Curtis Graham, Backh./Fr. End Loader Opr., 44+ yrs.  
Gary West, Crew Leader, 28+ yrs.

### DISTRICT 3

Hesterly Jones, Senior Mechanic, 17+ yrs.

### DISTRICT 4

Bobby Bearden, Dozer Operator - Finish, 35+ yrs.  
Roger Harris, Crew Leader, 20+ yrs.

### DISTRICT 6

Billy Dunlap, Motor Patrol Operator-Fin., 24+ yrs.  
Larry Gorbet, Area Maintenance Supv., 20+ yrs.  
David Walker, Resident Engineer, 28+ yrs.  
Roy Zuber, Motor Patrol Opr.-Finish, 29+ yrs.

### DISTRICT 7

John Beasley, Resident Office Tech., 36+ yrs.  
Robert Hunter, Jr., Bridge Repairer II, 20+ yrs.  
Ovell Jackson, Rest Area Attendant, 18+ yrs.  
John Trawick, Shop Supervisor, 30+ yrs.

### DISTRICT 8

Eddie Deckard, Const. Project Coord., 37+ yrs.  
Donald Hill, Senior Inspector, 37+ yrs.  
Virginia Johnson, Guard, 8+ yrs.

### DISTRICT 10

Karen Tosh, Field Clerk II, 27+ yrs.

## MEMORIALS

### ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE

Bill B. White, 06-16-2006, Retired  
Carolyn A. Ray, 07-05-2006, Retired  
Luther Brown, 07-10-2006, Retired

### RIGHT OF WAY

Walker M. Watson, 06-11-2006, Retired

### DISTRICT 2

Donald L. Nutt, 07-04-2006, Active

### DISTRICT 4

Rachel M. Turman, 06-08-2006, Retired  
Theodore Cowan, 07-06-2006, Retired

### DISTRICT 5

Donie D. Bray, 06-29-2006, Active

### DISTRICT 7

James E. Whittington, 06-24-2006, Retired

### DISTRICT 8

Rubin H. Williams, 06-23-2006, Active

### DISTRICT 10

Donald G. Johnston, 06-15-2006, Retired  
Waukeen W. Bateman, 07-04-2006, Retired  
Leonard L. Retherford, 07-06-2006, Retired

## MILITARY DUTY

As of 7/25/06, the AHTD had 11 employees serving active duty in the military. Dates denote the deployment date.

### HUMAN RESOURCES

Travis Nelson, Safety Inspection Officer, 5/8/06

### MAINTENANCE

Michael Brown, Sr. Traffic Investigator, 6/12/06

### DISTRICT 1

R.M. Ferrell, Backhoe/Fr. End Load. Opr., 1/2/06  
Ricky L. Benson, Construction Helper II, 7/19/06  
Roger Specking, Bridge Job Supt, 7/8/06

### DISTRICT 4

Jeremy Bowles, Construction Helper II, 7/13/06

### DISTRICT 9

Steven Halsted, Hydr. Excav. Opr.-Fin., 7/3/06

### DISTRICT 10

Kyle Beasley, Single Axle Truck Driver, 7/19/06  
Robert Martin, General Laborer, 7/19/06  
Dustin Miller, Bridge Repairer I, 7/19/06  
Gary Morton, Bridge Inspector Helper, 7/19/06

Answer to "Where is This?" Scenic State Highway 5, over the White River at the Stone County & Izard County line.