

Center Line



AHTD Staff Attends GIS Symposium

Several AHTD employees attended the 9th Biennial Arkansas GIS Users Forum (Geographic Information Systems) in Eureka Springs held at the end of September.

The symposium is designed to broaden the knowledge of users as to the growing possibilities of GIS and the daily activities of agencies on a city, county and statewide level. Approximately 58 agencies were represented during the four-day event.

Sharon Baker, Section Head - Mapping & Graphics, and Christopher Davis, GIS Analyst, were among the presenters for the Forum. The two gave a presentation titled "Plotting, Updating and Maintaining City Limit Boundaries" that provided insight into the AHTD's city limit methodology when updating city limit boundaries across the state.

The AHTD's team was the first to complete their GPS scavenger hunt. Team members included: Robert Scoggin, Environmental Scientist I; Debbie Barclay, Program Analyst; Laura DeBro Carter, Advanced Programs & Contracts Specialist; and Danny Chidester, Transportation Specialist.

Margaret Hance, Lead Section Analyst-Computer Services, received a Lifetime Achievement Award for her years of service in the GIS community. Hance is a dedicated supporter of Arkansas geospatial technology and has successfully spearheaded various upgrades with the AHTD. Her



GIS Team: (l. to r.) Robert Scoggin, Debbie Barclay, Laura DeBro Carter and Danny Chidester.

responsibilities include introducing and implementing new products and software to users in several Divisions. During her 17 years with the Department she has assisted users in converting and applying several data base and graphic files including accident, average daily traffic, bridge information and job record files.

"It's rewarding to see AHTD employees receive recognition for a job well done, not only in the office, but out in the community as well," commented AHTD Director Dan Flowers.



AHTD Inclement Weather Policy ❄️

November brings the chance for ice and snow. In the event that AHTD employees are excused by official action due to inclement weather, the following policy will be 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 otherwise 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.

AHTD employees working under the flex schedule must adjust their time accordingly.

Arkansas State Fair

Don Young, Section Head - Reprographics, (foreground, left) and Trey Foster, Civil Engineer II, (background) work the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department booth at the 2007 Arkansas State Fair in October. Thank you to all AHTD staff members who gave of their time to volunteer this year.

Put Your Cell Phone on "ICE"

A simple three-letter entry into your cell phone's contact list could save your life. When ICE, In Case of Emergency, is typed in front of a loved one's name, it will instantly let rescue crews know who to contact.

Anyone with a cell phone can take part in the program. It's easy, it's free and it could mean the difference between life and death. When emergency crews respond to an accident, one of the first things they will do is try to track down the victim's cell phone. They will look through the cell phone's contact list looking for an ICE listing.

To set up ICE on your cellular phone:

- Step ❶: Create a new contact in your phone
- Step ❷: Name the contact ICE, for example "ICE Mom"
- Step ❸: Program the number for your emergency contact

Follow a few hints to get the best out of the ICE program. Make sure the person whose name and number you are giving has agreed to be your ICE partner. Also, be sure your ICE partner has a list of people they should contact on your behalf, including your place of work. Your ICE person's number should be one that is easy to contact, for example, a home number could be useless in an emergency if the person works full time. And finally, be sure your ICE partner knows about any medical conditions that could affect your emergency treatment, for example, allergies or current medications.



Highway History



The December 2000 and January 2001 ice storms cost the Department almost \$40 million.

Cafeteria Plan Enrollment

Enrollment in the Department's Section 125 Cafeteria Plan for the Plan year 2008 is now underway. Forms for the program have been distributed to all AHTD employees.

To be eligible for enrollment, you must be employed by the Department for six months. Those employees declining participation for Plan year 2008 will not be eligible to enroll until the next Plan year beginning January 1, 2009, unless they incur a qualified change in family status. In addition, employees that enroll cannot make changes to their plan selection unless they incur a qualified change in family status.

Remember, you must sign the form even if you are declining participation in the program. Forms should be returned to your District or Division Office on or before November 30, 2007.

Please note, the Medical Spending Account for Plan Year 2008 will be increased to \$3,500 (\$134.61 per pay period).

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Fiscal Services at 501-569-2510 or 501-569-2512.

Sign the form and return it on or before November 30th, even if you are declining participation.



Employee: Patty Jackson, Field Clerk II, Searcy Resident Engineer Office, District Five

Length of Service: 29.5 years

Job Duties: I keep a daily log of employee payroll and over-time and key that information to the Central Office. I also maintain monthly information for 19 vehicles. Among my other office duties are handling written communications with contractors, ordering supplies, checking contractor payrolls, maintaining EEO information, typing letters and memos, and keeping employee information up to date.

Favorite part of the job: I enjoy getting to know people in other offices, especially District personnel in Batesville. If I need help with something, I just call them and they know the answer.

Background: I graduated from Kensett High School in 1971. I attended Foothills Vocational Tech and worked for Lowe's part time. I began work for the AHTD in 1978 in Resident Engineer Office #55 in Searcy. I started as an Engineer Aide I and worked outside flagging and helping the survey crew. A few years later, I accepted a position as Field Clerk I and was then promoted to Field Clerk II.

Family: I have a very close family that includes my Mom, two sisters, three brothers and my sons, Reggie and Ivory.

Hobbies: I enjoy hanging out with my Mom and sisters, listening to music and shopping. I attend Centennial Baptist Church in Kensett.



AHTD Calendar Events

Holidays

The AHTD will suspend all work except in cases of emergency for holidays.

Nov. 22	◆	Thanksgiving
Nov. 23	◆	Thanksgiving
Dec. 24	◆	Christmas Eve
Dec. 25	◆	Christmas

Service Awards

Dec. 3	◆	District 7	1:30 p.m.
Dec. 5	◆	District 5	10:00 a.m.
Dec. 6	◆	District 3	11:00 a.m.
Dec. 7	◆	District 9	11:00 a.m.
Dec. 10	◆	District 2	10:00 a.m.
Dec. 11	◆	District 10	11:00 a.m.
Dec. 12	◆	District 8	11:00 a.m.
Dec. 13	◆	Central Office	10:00 a.m.
Dec. 13	◆	District 6	12:00 p.m.
Dec. 14	◆	District 4	11:00 a.m.
Dec. 18	◆	District 1	10:00 a.m.

Flu Shots November 19

For AHTD employees interested in receiving a flu shot, the Department has scheduled a clinic in the Central Office Auditorium on November 19th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Employees may drop in when convenient.

Flu shots will be covered by employees' insurance this year. An employee or spouse covered by the group health insurance plan can get a free flu shot by presenting their insurance card at the time of the shot. The cost will be \$20 for those without group health insurance.

For more information, contact Tara Robinson at 501-569-2455.



District 4: (l. to r.) Bashar Qedan, Assistant Resident Engineer, receives his 20-year service award from Jeff Stroud, Resident Engineer.



Bridge: (l. to r.) Phil Brand, Division Head, presents Joshua Wayne Davis, Bridge Design Engineer, with his 5-year service award.



Bridge: (l. to r.) Phil Brand, Division Head, presents Dallas Stevens, Advanced Bridge Design Engineer, with his 5-year service award.



District 2: (l. to r.) James House, District Engineer, presents Kenneth Edwards, Bridge Crew Leader, with his 20-year service award.



Heavy Bridge Maintenance: (l. to r.) Mike Hill, Staff Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, presents Bill Ritchie, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Crew Supervisor, with his 30-year service award.



District 2: (l. to r.) Jeff Hart, District Shop Supervisor, presents Steve Hamilton, Senior Mechanic, with his 15-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) 8 Russellville Angie Reeder, Field Clerk II, receives her 5-year service award from Bill Fine, Resident Engineer.



Heavy Bridge Maintenance: (l. to r.) Mike Hill, Staff Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, presents Dan Potter, Bridge Repairer II, with his 25-year service award.



District 3: (l. to r.) Susan Monroe, Office Manager, received her 35-year service award from Don Donaldson, District Engineer.



District 7: (l. to r.) Carl Bachelor, District Engineer, presents David Archer, District Construction Engineer, with his 20-year Service Award.



District 9: (l. to r.) Lowell Cox, Maintenance Aide II, receives his 30-year service award from Stan Rissley, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



District 3: (l. to r.) Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer, presents Larry Smith, Motor Patrol Operator - Finish, his 5-year service award.



District 9: (l. to r.) Chester Lawrence, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, receives his 15-year service award from Kit Core, Area Maintenance Supervisor.



Materials: (l. to r.) Josh Higginbottom, Geotechnical Aide II, receives his 5-year service award from David Ross, Section Head of Geotechnical.



District 6: Madisyn Laney Edwards, born July 8th, 2007, is the first grandchild of retiree Julia A. Morrison.



District 8: (l. to r.) Tommy Littleton, District Construction Engineer, presents Larry Nicholson, Inspector, with his 20-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Tommy Littleton, District Construction Engineer, presents Donna Chronister, Field Clerk II, with her 15-year service award.



District 7: David Archer, District Construction Engineer (l.), and Mark Headley, Staff Construction Engineer (r.), present Todd Russell, Resident Engineer, with his 20-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Tommy Littleton, District Construction Engineer, presents David Wyers, Inspector, with his 25-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Tommy Littleton, District Construction Engineer, presents David Tolleson, Resident Engineer, with his 20-year service award.



District 7: David Archer, District Construction Engineer (l.), and Mark Headley, Staff Construction Engineer (r.), present Robert E. "Gene" McKinnon, Resident Engineer, with his 20-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Tommy Littleton, District Construction Engineer, presents Billy Sampley, Senior Inspector, with his 20-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Tommy Littleton, District Construction Engineer, presents Larry Wilson, Inspector, with his 15-year service award.



District 2: Jon Mormon, Assistant Resident Engineer (l.), and Tim Kelly, Resident Engineer (r.), present Henry "Lee" Walton, Construction Aide I, with his 5-year certificate.



District 4: Ray Jett, Area Maintenance Supervisor, received his 30-year service award.



District 8: (l. to r.) Tommy Littleton, District Construction Engineer, presents Russell Deckard, Senior Inspector, with his 20-year service award.



District 10: Chase Alan Losh, was born September 16th, 2007, weighing 7 lbs. 6.5 oz. and measuring 21 inches. He is the son of Robert Losh, Bridge Repairer.



District 10: Tucker Beasley, born October 5th, 2007, is the grandson of Buck Beasley, Maintenance Job Superintendent.



District 3: (l. to r.) Receiving their 5-year service awards are Pat Edmonson, Maintenance Aide I; Jeff Taylor, Maintenance Aide II; Kermit Glasgow, Multi-Axle Truck Driver; from Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer.



NEW EMPLOYEES

MAINTENANCE - Robert Copeland, Jr., Sign Erector
Tina Paxton, Telecommunications Operator

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Brian Davis, Office
Administrative Asst. II

DISTRICT 1 - Pamela Frazier, General Laborer

DISTRICT 2 - Brandon Webster, Single Axle Truck Dr.

DISTRICT 3 - Robert Willis, District Caretaker

DISTRICT 6 - Jeffrey Bean, Sgl. Axle Truck Driver; Christopher Johnson, Sgl. Axle Tr. Dr.;
Vernon Pinson, III, General Laborer; Randy Sharp, Motor Patrol Operator

DISTRICT 7 - Marquan Bulliner, Single Axle Truck Driver; Lowell Jones, General Laborer
Darin Moore, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 8 - Phillip Floyd, General Laborer; Joseph Shamsie, General Laborer; Rafael Solis,
General Laborer

DISTRICT 9 - Amber Carter, General Laborer; Howard Wilson, Storeroom Assistant I

PROMOTIONS

DISTRICT 1 - Bobby McGee, Station Attendant II

HEAVY BRIDGE - Eugene Farrell, Bridge Repairer II

MAINTENANCE - Bert Porterfield, Senior Traffic Investigator

DISTRICT 1 - Jimmy Pulley, Jr., Bridge Job Superintendent

DISTRICT 2 - Robert Glover, Electrical, Plumbing & Mechanical Repairer; Adam Jackson,
Single Axle Truck Driver, Grant County

DISTRICT 3 - Lyle Ferguson, Backh./F.E.L. Op., Nevada Co., Connie Pate, Distrib./Roller Op.,
Pike County; Cody Tewalt, Sgl. Axle Tr. Driv., Lafayette Co.; Sheila Tippitt, Personnel Clerk;
William Townsend, Motor Patr. Operator-Finish, Lafayette County

DISTRICT 4 - Dwight Coutcher, Multi-Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT 5 - Doris Phillips, Maint. Aide I, White County; Blake Smith, Senior Mechanic

DISTRICT 6 - James Bingham, Multi-Ax. Tr. Dr., Pulaski Co.; Miles Carroll, Dozer Operator
- Finish; Scottye Coursion, Construction Aide I, RE 62; Jeffrey Stroud, Motor Patrol Operator-
Finish; Matthew Vernich, Bridge Repairer I; Hobort Watson, Crew Leader

DISTRICT 7 - Nathan Edwards, District Bridge Inspector; Courtney Ellis, Sgl. Axle Truck Dr.,
Clark Co.; Derrick Martin, Distr./Roller Op., Bradley County

DISTRICT 9 - Melvin Duncan, Multi-Ax. Tr. Dr., Benton Co.; Rodger Frost, Const. Aide I, RE 94

DISTRICT 10 - Slade Dollar, Construction Aide I, RE 04; Gary Murphy, Const. Aide II, RE 05

SERVICE AWARDS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - James Anders, Patrol Officer 1CL, 20 yrs.; Richard Branch,
Corporal, 15 yrs.; James Clark, Sergeant, 30 yrs.; Terry Miller, Sergeant, 20 yrs.

BRIDGE - Mark Edwards, Design Tech. II, 5 yrs.; Jim Tribo, Staff Bridge Design Eng., 25 yrs.

COMPUTER SERVICES - Ray Moix, App. Analyst/Prog. V, 25 yrs.; David Phillips, Lead
Section Analyst, 15 yrs.

CONSTRUCTION - Leslie Barnett, Constr. Proj. Coord., RE 41, 35 yrs.; Phyllis Barnett-Cook, Adm.
Aide V, RE 00, 20 yrs.; Donnaire Granger, Constr. Field Eng. II, RE 14, 5 yrs.; Daniel Harris, Resident
Eng., RE 13, 5 yrs.; Bill Hockaday, Asst. Res. Eng., RE 31, 20 yrs.; Christopher Knowles, Senior
Insp., RE 34, 20 yrs.; Kristy Leeman, Res. Ofc. Tech., RE 62, 5 yrs.; Gene McKinnon, Res.
Eng., RE 76, 20 yrs.; Kenneth Neely, Const. Mat. Insp., RE 06, 5 yrs.; Jim Pound, Resident
Engineer, RE 65, 30 yrs.; Jeffrey Russell, Resident Eng., RE 73, 20 yrs.; Henry Walton,
Const. Aide I, RE 24, 5 yrs.

MAINTENANCE - Michael Brown, Sr. Traffic Inv., 25 yrs.; James Jones, Signing Supt., 30 yrs.

MATERIALS - Bernard Eldridge, Materials Tech. II, 5 yrs.

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Robert Williams, Cartographer III, 35 yrs.

RIGHT OF WAY - Danny Cornett, Util. Coord. II, 20 yrs.; Susan Maddox, Ofc. Adm. Asst. III, 15 yrs.

ROADWAY DESIGN - Lois Rachels, Senior Designer, 15 yrs.

SURVEYS - Angie Carter, Surveys Aide III, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 1 - William Carpenter, Sign Erector, 10 yrs.; Dennis Forrest, Multi-Axle Truck
Driver, 5 yrs.; Patricia Livingston, Single Axle Tr. Dr., 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 2 - Kenneth Edwards, Crew Ldr., 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 3 - Patrick Edmonson, Maint. Aide I, 5 yrs.; Danny Jones, Storeroom Assistant I,
15 yrs.; Billy Langston, Elec. Pl. & Mech. Rep., 10 yrs.; Larry Smith, Motor Patrol Op.-Finish, 5
yrs.; Ricky Williams, Maintenance Aide II, 25 yrs.

DISTRICT 4 - Ronald Ball, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 yrs.; Ray Jett, Area Maint. Supv., 30 yrs.

DISTRICT 5 - Dwane Thompson, Lowboy Or Float Truck Driver, 15 yrs.; Charles Wallace, Motor
Patrol Operator, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 6 - Rusty Bornemeier, Backh./F.E.L. Op., 10 yrs.; Ralph Burge, Area Maint. Supv.,
30 yrs.; Johnny Hadley, Maint. Aide II, 5 yrs.; Joshua Leavell, Maint. Aide I, 5 yrs.

DISTRICT 7 - Jimmie Estes, Area Hq. Attendant, 15 yrs.

DISTRICT 8 - Mitchell Aday, Bridge Repairer I, 5 yrs.; Dwayne Helton, Maint. Aide II, 20 yrs.

DISTRICT 9 - Eric Bridges, Backh./F.E.L. Op., 10 yrs.; Tracy Eddings, Sgl. Axle Truck Driver,
5 yrs.; John Johnson, Crew Leader, 15 yrs.; Chester Lawrence, Multi-Axle Truck Dr., 15 yrs.;
Tammy Vanderwaal, Area Hq. Attendant, 10 yrs.

DISTRICT 10 - Shante' Anderson, Area Hq. Attendant, 5 yrs.; Marsha Montgomery, Maint.
Aide I, 5 yrs.; Nancy Robinson, Roller Op., 5 yrs.; Robin Wood, Backh./F.E.L. Operator, 5 yrs.

RETIREES

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - James Anders, Patrol Officer 1CL, 20+ yrs.

DISTRICT 1 - Floyd Eskridge, Jr., Maint. Aide II, 18+ yrs.

DISTRICT 2 - Floyd Baker, Area Hq. Attendant, 23+ yrs.; Frances Betts, Area Hq. Attendant,
11+ yrs.; Ray Vincent, Senior Inspector, 28+ yrs.

DISTRICT 3 - Willie Martin, Multi-Axle Truck Dr., 15+ yrs.

DISTRICT 7 - Roy Harris, Rest Area Attendant, 29+ yrs.

MEMORIALS

DISTRICT 6 - Charles D. Broadway, 10/16/07, Retired; District 6 Olen E. Gunter, 10/23/07,
Retired; District 6 Vernon V. Small, 10/23/07, Retired

DISTRICT 7 - Norman Kenneth Freeman, 10/19/07, Active

DISTRICT 8 - Clyde G. Bridges, 10/17/07, Retired

DISTRICT 9 - Shirley F. Wright, 10/13/07, Retired

DISTRICT 10 - Jimmy B. Murray, 10/13/07, Retired

MILITARY DUTY

As of 11/14/07, the AHTD had 13 employees serving active duty in a
branch of the United States military. Dates denote the deployment date.

(ACTIVE)
ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE - Shawn Foust, Sergeant, 8/04/07

PLANNING & RESEARCH - Kimberly Sanders, Transp. Planner, 11/29/06

DISTRICT 1 - Ricky Benson, Construction Helper II, 7/19/06

DISTRICT 4 - Brandon Bowen, Senior Mechanic, 10/12/06; Jeremy Bowles,
Construction Helper II, 7/13/06; Nathan Reed, Multi-Axle
Truck Driver, 10/3/05

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

DISTRICT 9 - Steven Halsted, Crew Leader, 7/3/06; Eric
Jaeger, Maint. Aide I, 8/30/06; Cameron Whitney, Sign
Erector, 10/9/07

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

(RETURNING)
HUMAN RESOURCES - Travis Nelson, Safety Inspection
Officer, 10/25/07

MATERIALS - Christopher Wald, Civil Engineer II, 11/10/07



*"Where Is This?"
Highway 109 crosses
the Arkansas River
south of Clarksville.*