

The background of the cover is a photograph of a log cabin in a snowy winter landscape. The trees are heavily laden with snow, and the sky is a clear, bright blue. The title 'Arkansas HIGHWAYS' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, with 'Arkansas' in a smaller size above 'HIGHWAYS'. Below the title, the text 'FEBRUARY 2014 | NEWSLETTER' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. A stylized white graphic of a road or highway curves from the top left towards the title.

Arkansas HIGHWAYS

FEBRUARY 2014 | NEWSLETTER



ON THE
inside

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FRONT COVER:
Highway 128 • Garland County

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Little Rock, AR 72203-2261

SUBMISSIONS

Photo submissions are included as time and space allow. Please submit images to the appropriate District or Division Reporter:

- DISTRICT 1 Linnie Calvert
- DISTRICT 2 Sandy Pendergrass
- DISTRICT 3 Melanie Lauterbach
- DISTRICT 4 Pam Bruce
- DISTRICT 5 Coleen Stevens
- DISTRICT 6 Patricia Fletcher-Kester
- DISTRICT 7 Kathy Daniel
- DISTRICT 8 Regina Colclough
- DISTRICT 9 JaNell Davidson
- DISTRICT 10 Regenia Landrum
- ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE Cecile Knight
- BRIDGE Barbara Cox
- COMPUTER SERVICES Margarita Olive
- CONSTRUCTION Claire Rita Rockwell
- EEO Wendy Newboles
- ENVIRONMENTAL LynAnne Ivy
- EQUIPMENT & PROCUREMENT Judith Orrick
- FISCAL Stephanie Howard
- HUMAN RESOURCES Tara Robinson
- INTERNAL AUDIT Twandria Campbell
- LEGAL Kim Jewell
- MAINTENANCE Mandy Price
- MATERIALS Dana Smith
- TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & POLICY Sarah Garrett
- RIGHT OF WAY Lyndsey Taylor
- ROADWAY DESIGN Jennifer M. Williams
- STATE AID Cindy Allen
- SURVEYS Page McPherson
- SYSTEM INFORMATION & RESEARCH Tara Holloman

Arkansas Highways Newsletter is published bi-monthly by and for employees of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department as a medium of departmental news and other information.

RALPH HALL

Named Deputy Director and Chief Engineer

RALPH HALL, a 42-year veteran of the AHTD, has been promoted to Deputy Director and Chief Engineer.



Hall began his new duties in January. He replaces Frank Vozel who retired from the Department in December. Prior to being named Deputy Director and Chief Engineer, Hall was Assistant to the Director.

A native of Pocahontas, Hall began his career with the Department in 1972 as an Engineering Assistant in West Memphis. During his career with the AHTD, he has also served as Resident Engineer, Assistant District Engineer, Staff Construction Engineer, Division Head of Materials and Research, District Six Engineer, Assistant Chief Engineer of Operations and Assistant to the Director.

“I am pleased to be able to serve the Department in this capacity,” Hall stated. “My background is in construction, materials and maintenance and I am excited to contribute as the Department expands its efforts to communicate the needs for reducing congestion, improving safety and maintaining the existing highways.”

“I’m excited to have Ralph as our new Deputy Director and Chief Engineer,” stated AHTD Director Scott Bennett.

“He has a wealth of knowledge and experience in operations and administration, and is a great leader and mentor. I know he’ll keep us moving forward and help improve all aspects of the Department. I’ve given him a couple of big challenges, or ‘opportunities’ as I like to call them, for this year. He has always been a hard worker and has risen to any challenge so I know he’ll meet these challenges to help the Department be as successful as we can be.”

Hall was inducted into the Arkansas Academy of Civil Engineers in 1998. He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Arkansas and is a Registered Professional Engineer. He is a resident of Bryant. ♦

Planning & Research Splits Into TWO DIVISIONS

MAP-21, the **Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act**, was signed into law by President Obama on July 6, 2012. Funding surface transportation programs at over \$105 billion for fiscal years 2013 and 2014, MAP-21 is the first long-term highway authorization enacted since 2005. It has also resulted in changes to the structure of the AHTD's Planning & Research Division.

MAP-21 addresses many challenges facing the U.S. transportation system today. These challenges include improving safety, maintaining infrastructure condition, reducing traffic congestion, improving efficiency of the system and freight movement, protecting the environment, and reducing delays in project delivery.

MAP-21 requires many additional responsibilities for the AHTD that include freight corridor activities as well as asset and performance management for both highways and transit operations.

In order to implement these new responsibilities efficiently and to better align duties, the Department's former Planning & Research Division was split into two divisions. This change was effective as of October 3, 2013. The structure of the new divisions is as follows:

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & POLICY DIVISION **Jessie Jones, Division Head**

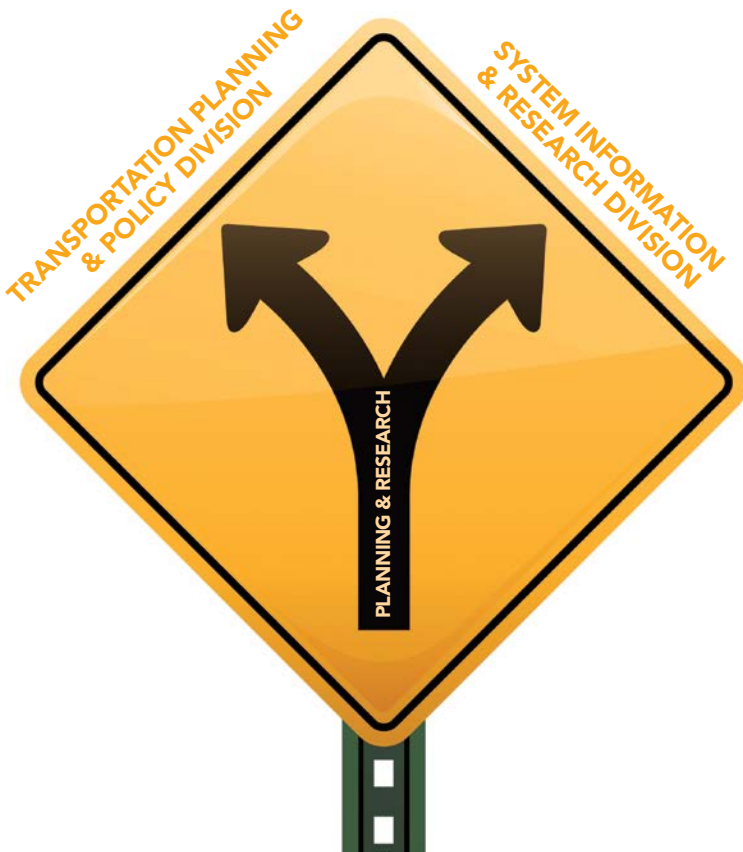
- **Geographic Information Systems & Mapping Section**
(formerly Mapping & Graphics Section)
- **Policy & Legislative Analysis Section**
(formerly Policy Analysis Section)
- **Public Transportation Programs Section**
(formerly Public Transportation Section)
- **Multimodal & Project Planning Section**
(formerly Statewide Planning Section)
- **Traffic Safety Section** (no change)
- **Metropolitan Planning Coordination Office** (new)

SYSTEM INFORMATION & RESEARCH DIVISION **Alan Meadors, Division Head**

- **Asset Management Section**
(formerly Pavement Management Section)
- **Research Section** (no change)
- **Traffic Information Systems Section**
(formerly Technical Services Section)

In addition, administration of the Scenic Byways Program has been transferred to the Environmental Division's Beautification Section. Administration of the Safe Routes to Schools Program and the Recreational Trails Program has been transferred to the Programs & Contracts Division's Project Development Section. These programs, along with the Transportation Enhancement Program, have been combined in MAP-21 into the Transportation Alternatives Program.

Administration of the Center for Training Transportation Professionals Program has been transferred to the Construction Division. ♦





AHP Bass Classic

SET FOR MARCH 29 & 30 ON DEGRAY LAKE

The Annual Arkansas Highway Police Bass Classic will be held on March 29th & 30th on DeGray Lake near Arkadelphia.

AHTD staff members are encouraged to sign up and join in the fun for a day of fishing! AHTD employees, corporate sponsors or a boat sponsored by any AHTD employee or corporate sponsor are invited to fish in the tournament.

Prizes will be awarded to the top four

finishers plus there will be a Big Bass Pot.

On Saturday, March 29th participants and family members are invited to attend evening festivities. There will be a dinner provided along with great door prizes. There will also be a live auction on Saturday night.

There are numerous motels in Caddo Valley as well as lodging at the DeGray Lake State Park and Lodge. Campsites are located in the park as well.

Entry fee for the event is \$100 and is due by March 14th. Entries after that date are \$110. This is the twentieth year for the event. Proceeds go to the mid-south chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation. ♦

For a Bass Classic entry form or more information, contact:

- NED WARD at 870-703-6328
- CLYDE CROOKHAM at 501-658-8502
- CHRISSY WILLIAMS at 501-569-2424

GRADUATION PHOTOS Due by April 28

Let everyone know how proud you are of your favorite graduate! **Submit your photos to the Public Information Office NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M., MONDAY, APRIL 28** in order to have yours included in our special section to be published in the June issue of *Arkansas Highways Newsletter*. Photos and information must be submitted according to the following guidelines so that the photos will print clearly and with the proper identification.

Photos should be submitted as color, high-resolution, digital images saved as JPEG or TIFF format. Low-resolution images, or ones taken with a mobile phone, are strongly discouraged as they will not print clearly. Hard copies of photos may also be submitted. Hard copies will be returned after the graduation section has been printed.



WITH YOUR PHOTO, INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: Student Name, School Name, Student's Relationship to AHTD Employee, Employee Name and Employee District/Division. ♦

Email digital submissions to:

Paula.Cigainero@ahtd.ar.gov

Mail hard copy submissions to:

AHTD Public Information
Attn: Paula Cigainero
P.O. Box 2261 • Little Rock, AR 72203

FOUR-DAY WORK WEEK Returns Next Month



The four-day work week will go back into effect in March. Effective March 20th through October 29th, the following personnel will work a four-day, ten-hour schedule Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. with a half hour for lunch:

- Field Maintenance Personnel
- District Shop Crews
- Storeroom Personnel
- Area Maintenance Supervisors
- Job Superintendents
- Shop Supervisors
- Equipment Maintenance Supervisors
- Signing, Striping and Profiling Crews
- Traffic Engineering Personnel
- Sign Shop Personnel
- Surveys Division
- Survey Parties
- Heavy Bridge Maintenance Crews
- Facilities Management Personnel
- Radio Maintenance Specialists
- Safety Inspection Officers
- Equipment and Procurement Shop Personnel
- Traffic Information Systems Section Field Personnel

On those weeks containing a holiday, the work schedule will revert to a five-day, eight-hour work week. Vacation or sick leave for a ten-hour day will be charged as ten hours. Half days will be charged as five hours.

Supervisors are responsible for changing their employees' schedules in the Workforce Management System to correspond with the four-day, ten-hour days and the five-day, eight-hour days during a holiday week. For assistance or guidance on changing schedules, please contact the Personnel Office.

The Districts will rotate the service station personnel so that one person will be on a five-day, eight-hour work week in order to keep the station open from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Friday.

The Equipment Preventive Maintenance Program is to be carried out fully during the four-day work week period. ♦

Upcoming Dates to **REMEMBER**

WHAT'S AHEAD

FEB. 17 // MONDAY

President's Day

- AHTD Offices Closed for Holiday

FEB. 26 // WEDNESDAY

- Highway Commission Meeting
Central Office, Little Rock, 9:00 a.m.
- AHTD Bid Letting
Central Office, Little Rock, 10:30 a.m.

MARCH 9 // SUNDAY

- Daylight Saving Time begins.
Remember to set your clocks forward one hour.

FEBRUARY
MARCH

JARED WILEY

Named Assistant Division Head of Transportation Planning & Policy Division



JARED WILEY has been named Assistant Division Head of the Transportation Planning & Policy Division. Wiley worked for the Department as an Engineering Student Intern before being hired fulltime as a Civil Engineer in the Planning & Research Division in 2005. He advanced to Civil Engineer I a year later.

Wiley became a Civil Engineer II in 2007 and was promoted to Civil Engineer III in 2009. He became the Programs and Contracts Engineer II in 2012. Prior to becoming Assistant Division Head of Transportation Planning & Policy, he was Consultant Coordinator in the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer's office, a position he obtained in 2013.

Wiley has a bachelor's degree in Engineering with an emphasis in Civil Engineering from Arkansas State University. He is a Registered Professional Engineer. ♦



Q&A: The AHTD DROP



► WHAT IS THE DROP?

The **Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP)** for Arkansas State Highway Employees was introduced in the 1997 Legislative Session and became law July 1, 1997. The DROP allows you to “retire” for accounting purposes, and places a percentage of your retirement annuity into an interest bearing account while you still work and have the benefits of an active employee. The bill states that the DROP must be cost neutral to our retirement system. You cannot withdraw DROP money until you leave the Department.

► WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

You must meet any one of the qualifications below in order to join the DROP. The qualifications are as follows:

- Any age with 30 years of state service;
- 60 years of age with 20 years of state service;
- 62 years of age with 15 years of state service; or
- 65 years of age with 5 years of state service.

► WHAT ARE THE TIERS AND HOW LONG CAN YOU STAY IN THE PROGRAM?

The first 5 years in the DROP are referred to as **Tier I DROP**. If after 5 years in **Tier I DROP** you have not reached age 65, then you are eligible to enter **Tier II DROP** and work until the day prior to your 65th birthday. You must leave the Department by your 5-year date or your 65th birthday, whichever applies.

If you have worked at the AHTD for any length of time, you have probably heard conversations about the DROP program. The Arkansas Highways newsletter staff recently visited with Lanecia Weston of the Fiscal Services Division to learn more about the program and to get answers to questions you may have about this program.

► CAN YOU ENTER THE DROP AT AGE 65 OR OLDER?

Yes, 65 or more years of age with 5 years of state service. But you will not be eligible for **Tier II DROP**.

► WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU ENTER THE DROP?

LOCKS IN YOUR HIGH 3-YEAR AVERAGE SALARY

You are considered retired when you enter the DROP. Your high 3-year average salary is calculated and locked in. It will not be re-calculated when you leave the Department even if you have received additional increases that significantly increased your salary. You must consider this when joining the DROP.

LOCKS IN YOUR RETIREMENT SERVICE TIME

Because you are considered retired for retirement system purposes, your retirement service time will be locked in. Your service time pertaining to annual and sick leave will continue to increase. If you have Reciprocal Service, Leave Without Pay (military only), Prior Service, or Military time that you would like to purchase, you must do so before you enter the DROP. A copy of your DD214 is needed to purchase military time. Note: You can roll money from your Deferred Compensation account to our Retirement System, without penalty, to buy back service time. Contact Kera Crowder, Retirement Counselor, at (501) 569-2412 to get the cost to purchase your time.

YOUR RETIREMENT OPTIONS

You must choose Straight Life, Option A or Option B at the time you DROP. This cannot be changed unless you have a change in marital status or your spouse or dependent dies and you have chosen Option B. If this occurs, you will go to Straight Life when you notify the Retirement Office. It is your

responsibility to let us know if this occurs. We will need a death certificate or divorce decree, whichever applies. All options pay the employee for life.

STRAIGHT LIFE — Stops at time of retiree's death.

Designated beneficiary would receive any balance in the retirement and DROP account.

OPTION A — Guaranteed to you or your beneficiary for 10 years from the time you leave the Department.

OPTION B — Upon your death, your beneficiary will receive one-half (½) of your monthly retirement annuity for their lifetime. There are only two types of eligible beneficiaries under this option:

- 1) A spouse who is married to the retirant for not less than two (2) years immediately preceding the date of entering the DROP; or
- 2) A person age 40 years or older on the first annuity payment due date and who receives more than one-half (½) support from the retirant for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the first payment due date of the retirant's annuity.

ONCE YOU ENTER THE DROP YOU WILL:

- Continue to accrue Sick Leave and Annual Leave.
- Receive Sick Leave Pay when you leave the Department (if eligible).
- Receive Promotions, Merit Raises, and Raises active employees receive (if eligible). We will not re-calculate high 3-year salary average.
- Receive December Recognition Bonus based on service time.
- Maintain all Insurance at the active employee rates. The Department continues to pay a portion of cost.
- Continue to be able to participate in Deferred Comp and the Credit Union.

► DOES IT AFFECT YOUR TAKE HOME PAY?

6% RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION

Tier I DROP retirees are exempt from paying 6% of their gross wages into the retirement system, so your take home pay will increase. This is a pre-taxed item so when you see it in your net pay it will not be the full 6% because it is no longer pre-taxed.

Tier II DROP retirees will resume contributing 6% of their salary to the retirement system on the first pay period following their 5-year date with no additional retirement credit given.

► WHAT ARE THE PERCENTAGES PAID AND INTEREST RATE?

- **In Tier I DROP**, the current amount deposited into your DROP account each month is 90% of your monthly retirement annuity. The current interest rate is 6% compounded monthly.
- **In Tier II DROP**, the current amount deposited into your DROP account each month drops to 79% of your monthly retirement annuity. The current interest rate is 6% compounded monthly.
- All percentages are subject to change by the Board.

► ARE THERE ANY ADDITIONAL BENEFITS?

Act 482 of 2001 provides an additional lump-sum benefit to DROP participants of up to \$7,500 payable to your beneficiary at your death. You may choose a different beneficiary for Retirement and the DROP for this benefit. This policy is through your retirement system and should not be confused with any policy you have with your health insurance or any additional life insurance that you have.

DROP COLA's

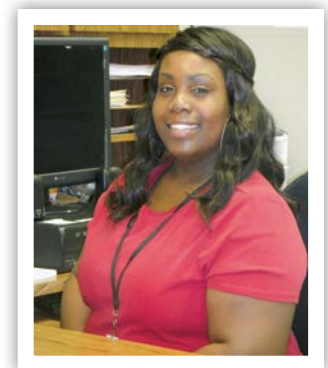
You must join the DROP on or before July 1 to be eligible for your first **Cost Of Living Adjustment (COLA)** on July 1 of the following year. These COLA's are based on your join date and not the date you leave. DROP COLA's are subject to change by the Arkansas General Assembly.

► ARE THERE DISADVANTAGES?

When you join the DROP, it is irrevocable, therefore if you were to receive a significant increase in pay while you are in the DROP it may have a negative impact on your annuity.

► WHO IS THE CONTACT PERSON?

Lanecia Weston
Fiscal Services Division
501-569-2052





THANK YOU to AHTD employees whose dedication and service to the Department has reached to 25, 30, 35 and even 40-plus years. And CONGRATULATIONS to those employees that retired from the Department in 2013.

CENTRAL OFFICE



25 YEARS:
 (Back Row L. to R.)
 Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr., Tim Mahan, Director Scott E. Bennett, Doug Hicks, Lee Greene, Randy Ort, Larry Lanes, Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr.

(Front Row L. to R.)
 Barbara Cox, Margarita Olive, Rita Haynes, Donald McMillen, John Fleming, Kevin Purifoy.

CENTRAL OFFICE



30 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr., Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Ronnie Smith, Gary English, Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) Mitzi Dunn, Sheryl Fletcher, Brenda Price, Karen McDaniels, Larry Golden.



35 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr., Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Scooter Key, Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) Tony Sullivan, Linda Price, Cindy Kuykendall, Ken Holmes.



40 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr., Ronnie E. Anderson, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr., Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Ron Easterling, Neil Palmer, Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) Stephen Mitchell, Kit Carson, Cindy Kuykendall, Frank Vozel.

DISTRICT ONE



25 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commission Chairman John Ed Regenold, Presenter – District Engineer Ray Woodruff, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett. (Front Row L. to R.) Elmer Calahan, Harold Mullins, Jr., Troy Tims.



30 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – Commission Chairman John Ed Regenold, Presenter – District Engineer Ray Woodruff, Rommie L. Harris, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commission Chairman John Ed Regenold, Presenter – District Engineer Ray Woodruff, Lanny Utley, John Holcombe, Roy Farrell, Billy Martin, Danny Vaughn, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett. (Front Row L. to R.) Danny Glenn, Joe DeWitt, Eddie Bryant, Dena Robison.

DISTRICT TWO



35 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer David Henning, Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) David Hutchins, Clarence Polk.



30 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer David Henning, Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) Elven Mustiful, Roy Porter.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Ernest Westfall, Jason Cowen, Presenter – District Engineer David Henning, Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) Ricky Wilson, Debra Pruitt, Ginger Haygood, Harlan Colbert.

DISTRICT THREE



25 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – District Engineer Stephen Frisbee, Jason Efird, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett. (Front Row L. to R.) Kenneth Adams, Rick Bailey, Eddie Loyed.



30 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Kathy Barham, Presenter – District Engineer Stephen Frisbee.



35 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – District Engineer Stephen Frisbee, Deborah Stueart, Gene Bishop, Jr., Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett.

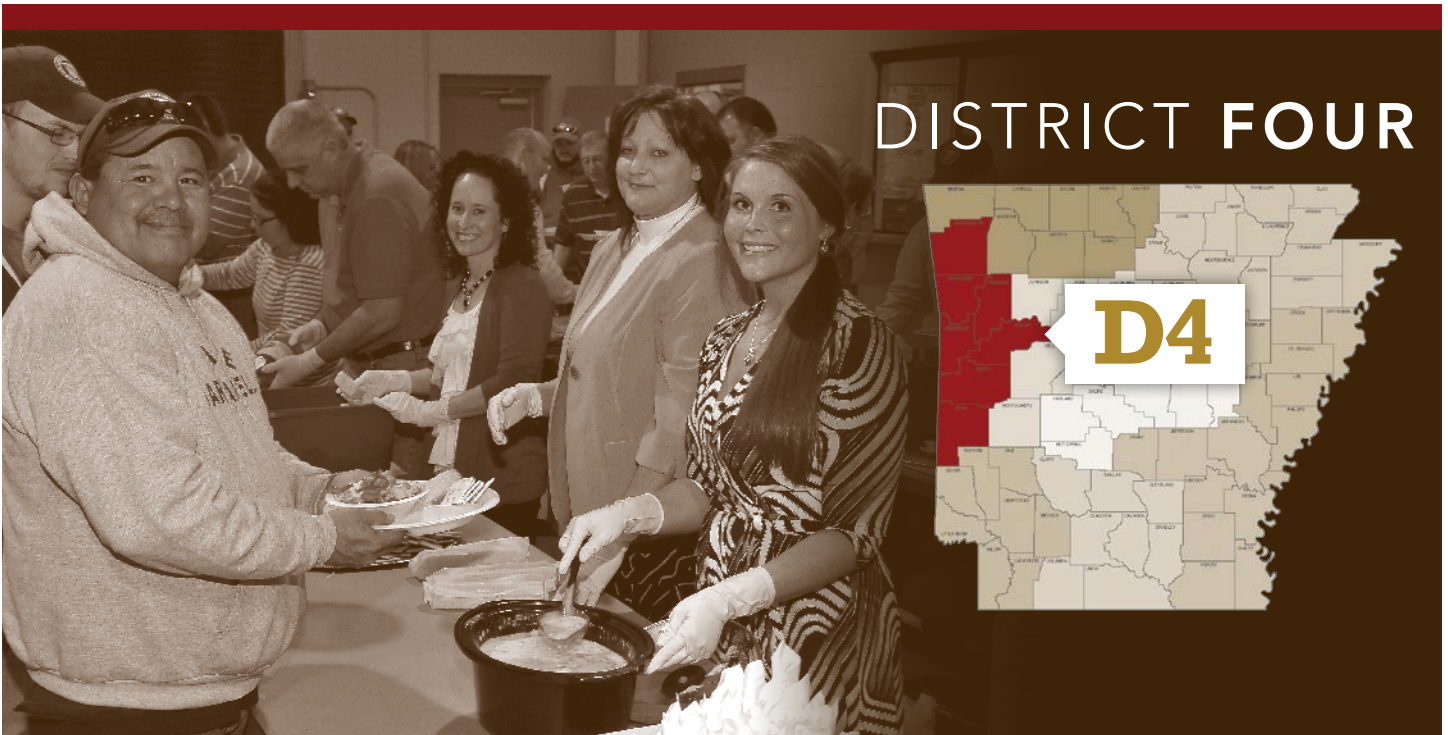


RETIRING: (L. to R.) Presenter – District Engineer Stephen Frisbee, Ala Mae Flenory, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Jackie Horton.



RETIRING: (L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Don Donaldson.

DISTRICT FOUR



25 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Jack Yancey, Presenter – District Engineer Chad Adams.



30 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Chad Adams. (Front Row L. to R.) Patricia Gilbert, Nicky Mings, Rita Stone.



35 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Chad Adams. (Front Row L. to R.) Mark Simpson, Jeffrey Stroud.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Chad Adams. (Front Row L. to R.) John McLaughlin, Leslie Barnett.

DISTRICT FIVE



25 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Lyndal Waits.
(Front Row L. to R.) Byron Price, Russell Moore, Dale Smith.



30 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – District Engineer Lyndal Waits, Stanley Glover, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett.



35 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Randy Rector, Presenter – District Engineer Lyndal Waits.
(Front Row L. to R.) Billy Clemons, Greg Hellmann, Edwin Chaney, Hoyt Taylor.



40 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – District Engineer Lyndal Waits, Michael Lackey, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Lyndal Waits.
(Front Row L. to R.) James Morgan, Rickie Sharp, Paul Matthews.

DISTRICT SIX



25 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – District Construction Engineer Mark Headley, Presenter – District Maintenance Engineer Tony Evans, William Richmond, Lonnie Murry, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Joe Sartini. (Front Row L. to R.) Hobort Watson, Clifford Roland, William Davis, Richard Moberly.



35 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Donald B. Ray, Jr.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – District Maintenance Engineer Tony Evans, Presenter – District Engineer Joe Sartini, Marilyn Walker, Joseph Fullen, Richard Collie, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Ronald Scarborough, Presenter – District Construction Engineer Mark Headley, Shirley Hammett-Hutchins. (Front Row L. to R.) James Watkins, Charles Nutt, Curtis Aud, Bernard Washington, Karl Sturm.

DISTRICT SEVEN



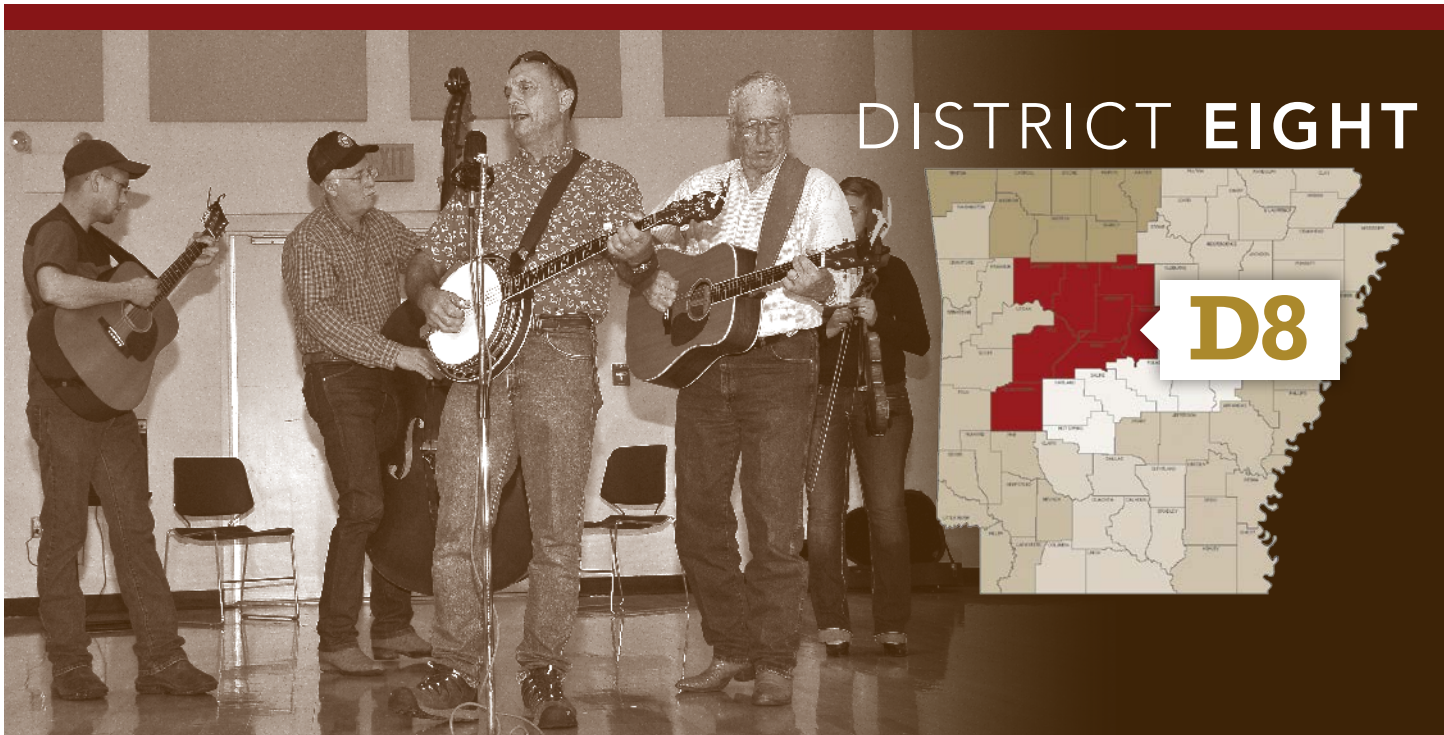
25 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr., Randy Stinnett, Richard Steed, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Jeff Venable. (Front Row L. to R.) Bobby Helms, Ronald Gorman, Cheryl Davis, Carrol Bryant, Douglas Dickens.



35 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr., Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Jeff Venable. (Front Row L. to R.) John Brandon, James Woods, Michael Nelson.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Robert S. Moore, Jr., Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Jeff Venable. (Front Row L. to R.) Kenneth Butler, Jerry Henderson, Carol Richard, Paul Howell, Dennis Rogers.



25 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Douglas Jones, James Irving, Neil Ford, Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) Nancy Keeling, Johnny Rice, Cleo Scott, Paul Athey, Larry Lay.



30 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) Jimmy Black, Lloyd Sheets, Scott Mullis.



35 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr., Kenneth Jones, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Calvin Horn, David Bartlett, Presenter – Commissioner Frank D. Scott, Jr. (Front Row L. to R.) Donald Morgan, Jerry Williams, James Roy, Walter Gray.

DISTRICT NINE



25 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Dick Trammel, Kenny Riley, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Steve Lawrence. (Front Row L. to R.) Arvel McConnell, Jackie Villines, Charita Robison Gregory, Jeffrey Wheeler.



30 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Dick Trammel, Ronald Sligar, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Steve Lawrence.



35 YEARS: (L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Dick Trammel, James Fancher, Teddy Widner, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Steve Lawrence.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commissioner Dick Trammel, Joe Davidson, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett, Presenter – District Engineer Steve Lawrence. (Front Row L. to R.) Ricky Dodson, Terry Jones, Phyllis Leonard.



DISTRICT TEN

D10



25 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commission Chairman John Ed Regenold, Presenter – District Engineer Walter McMillan, James Adams, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett. (Front Row L. to R.) Michael Tarry, Brad Smithee, Timothy Eaker.



35 YEARS: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commission Chairman John Ed Regenold, Walter McMillan, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett. (Front Row L. to R.) Mike Riley, Walter Hamm, James Hastings.



RETIRING: (Back Row L. to R.) Presenter – Commission Chairman John Ed Regenold, Presenter – District Engineer Walter McMillan, David Cooper, Mark Fender, Presenter – Director Scott E. Bennett. (Front Row L. to R.) Donnie Pfeifer, John Allison, James Morgan.



THE DEPARTMENT

1. ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE:

(L. to R.) First Lieutenant Eddy Bush, Assistant Commander District 1, presents Corporal Sammy Smith with his 30-Year Service Award.



1

2. ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE:

(L. to R.) Shenika Wymes, Motor Carrier Specialist I, receives her 10-Year Service Award from First Lieutenant Ross Batson.



2

3. ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE:

(L. to R.) Pat Brown, Administrative Aide II, receives her 10-Year Service Award from First Lieutenant Ross Batson.



3

4. HEAVY BRIDGE:

(L. to R.) Raymond Parker, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Superintendent, presents Jeff Honeycutt, Heavy Bridge Crew Leader, with his 15-Year Service Award.



4

5. SURVEYS:

(L. to R.) Chris Melhorn, Engineer III, presents Donnie Sanderson, Surveys Crew Chief, with his 25-Year Service Award.



5

6. DISTRICT 2:

(L. to R.) Daniel Courtney, Advanced Construction Field Engineer, presents Dwight Wells, Construction Project Coordinator – R.E. 21, with his 35-Year Service Award.



6

7. DISTRICT 2:

(L. to R.) Barron Johnson receives his 15-Year Service Award from Bobby West, Area Maintenance Supervisor – Ashley County.



7



8



12



9



13



10



14



11



15

8. DISTRICT 3: (L. to R.) Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer, presents Eugene Greenwood, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, with his 10-Year Service Award.

9. DISTRICT 3: (L. to R.) Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer, presents James Lamb, Bridge Repairer II, with his 20-Year Service Award.

10. DISTRICT 3: (L. to R.) Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer, presents Mike Haggard, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, with his 15-Year Service Award.

11. DISTRICT 3: (L. to R.) Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer, presents Neal Price, Motor Patrol Operator/Finish, with his 10-Year Service Award.

12. DISTRICT 3: (L. to R.) Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer, presents Ronald Hughes, Maintenance Aide II, with his 15-Year Service Award.

13. DISTRICT 3: (L. to R.) Tammy Bain, Rest Area Attendant, receives her 5-Year Service Award from Kenny Bennett, District Maintenance Engineer.

14. DISTRICT 5: (L. to R.) Receiving his 10-Year Service Award: Charles Tate, Multi-Axle Truck Driver. Receiving their 15-Year Service Awards: Jason Seaton, Maintenance Job Superintendent; and Ernie Hunt, Maintenance Aide I.

15. DISTRICT 6: (L. to R.) Joe Sartini, District Engineer, presents Patricia Fletcher-Kester, Office Administrative Assistant V, with her 15-Year Service Award.

SERVICE AWARDS

16. DISTRICT 6: (L. to R.) Victor Jordan, Motor Patrol Operator-Finish, receives his 10-Year Service Award from Hobort Watson, Maintenance Job Superintendent.



16

17. DISTRICT 6: (L. to R.) Hobort Watson, Maintenance Job Superintendent, presents Roger Starling, Hydraulic Excavator Operator-Finish, with his 10-Year Service Award.



17

19. DISTRICT 6: (L. to R.) David Miller, Maintenance Aide I, receives his 5-Year Service Award from Tony Evans, District Maintenance Engineer.



19

20. DISTRICT 8: (L. to R.) Regina Colclough, District Receptionist, receives her 20-Year Service Award from Nancy Keeling, Office Manager.



18

21. DISTRICT 8: (Center) Gary Hicks, Senior Mechanic, receives his 10-Year Service Award from (L.) Don Williams, Shop Supervisor, and (R.) Monty Scott, Equipment Supervisor.



21



19



20



21



THE DEPARTMENT

Noteworthy

On the Job

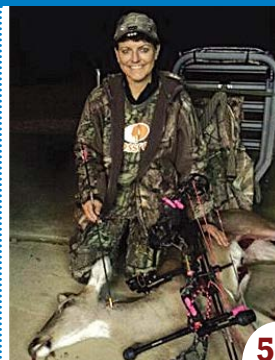
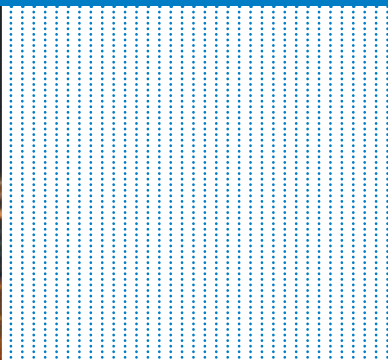


1. COMPUTER SERVICES:
Christmas 2013 was extra festive in the Computer Services Division. AHTD employee Jodi Shell, Computer Technician II, and Yvonda Horan, contractor from Cyberthink, did a wonderful job of decorating the Systems Section Computer Room.

2. HUMAN RESOURCES:
AHTD Spirit Day was held on November 1, 2013. This group of employees from Human Resources showed their team enthusiasm by joining in on the fun.

3. DISTRICT 9:
Commission Vice Chairman Dick Trammel stands with a new AHTD vehicle equipped with a front plow, belly plow and spreader. District Nine has acquired five of these trucks.

Hobbies, etc.



4. DISTRICT 5:
Tyler Bonham, 3-year-old son of Diana Converse, Single Axle Truck Driver – Searcy Crew, experienced his first hunting trip this season!

5. DISTRICT 5:
Doris Barkley, Area Headquarters Attendant – Searcy Crew, killed this doe with her bow.



THE DEPARTMENT

Noteworthy

Family Focus

6. HUMAN RESOURCES: Jayse Aston Morgan, nephew of Dee-Dee Cooper of Building Management, was born November 25, 2013. He weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces. Jayse is the son of Josh and Ashley Morgan.



6

7. CONSTRUCTION: (L. to R.) Thomas Penn, Estimate Technician, with his wife Kristen and their newborn son, Tyson Kristopher Penn. Tyson was born November 5, 2013. He weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces.



9

8. PROGRAMS & CONTRACTS: ViviAnn Rein Colvert, daughter of Kelley Colvert, Programs & Contracts Specialist I, and Morgan Colvert, was born September 11, 2013. ViviAnn weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces. She is the little sister of Cutter Colvert.



7

9. DISTRICT 5: Ernie Hunt, Maintenance Aide I – Cleburne County, holds his newborn granddaughter, Avery Lynn Hicks, who was born on November 21, 2013. She weighed 5 pounds, 13 ounces and was 18 inches long. Ernie's daughter, Meredith, is the proud mother of Avery.



10

10. DISTRICT 5: Bruce Street, District Maintenance Engineer, and his wife Heidi enjoyed their first Christmas with grandchildren. Emery Grace was their second grandchild born this year. She weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 20 inches long. Emery was born on November 14, 2013.



8

11. RIGHT OF WAY: Cason Wyatt Hearn, grandson of Debbie Nance, Administrative Assistant III, was born September 9, 2013. Cason is the son of Todd and Dani Hearn, and the little brother of 3-year-old Levi Hearn.



11



AHTD PEOPLE

EMPLOYEE STATISTICS DECEMBER 2013

NEW EMPLOYEES

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE • Hunter Griffith, Guard

CONSTRUCTION • Nicholas Bryant, Construction Helper; Matthew Williams, Construction Helper

RIGHT OF WAY • Chris Alsobrook, Construction Aide III; Cecil Clark, Jr., Environmental Analyst I; Daniel Ivy, Right of Way Plans Designer I; Tamela Miller, Office Administrative Assistant I; Richard Thomas, Construction Materials Inspector

SYSTEM INFORMATION & RESEARCH • Mike Bettger, Electronics Technician

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & POLICY • Marlon Dixon, Accident Coding Clerk

DISTRICT ONE • Orlando Clark, Single Axle Truck Driver; Cordero Hall, Single Axle Truck Driver; Terence Pendleton, Single Axle Truck Driver; Jefferee Pratt, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT TWO • John Nelson, General Laborer; Rickie Freeman, Single Axle Truck Driver; Jonathon Smith, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT THREE • Kelly Buck, General Laborer

DISTRICT FOUR • Landon Ridenoure, Single Axle Truck Driver; Anthony Steele, General Laborer; James O'Hearn, Single Axle Truck Driver; Kyla Pease, General Laborer; William Smith, General Laborer

DISTRICT FIVE • Josh Barnette, Single Axle Truck Driver; David South, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT SIX • John Southerland, Welder; Brady Collins, General Laborer; Julius Whitman, Single Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT SEVEN • Ricky Howard, Single Axle Truck Driver, Charles Womack, General Laborer

DISTRICT EIGHT • Merice Stewart, General Laborer

DISTRICT NINE • Derek Farmer, Electrical Plumbing and Mechanical Repairer; Bryan Roland, General Laborer

DISTRICT TEN • Jeffery Rogers, General Laborer

PROMOTIONS

COMPUTER SERVICES • Henry Frasher, Hardware Technician III

HEAVY BRIDGE MAINTENANCE • Sam McIntire, Heavy Bridge Supervisor

ROADWAY DESIGN • Christopher Lindsey, Design Engineer; Adnan Qazi, Senior Design Engineer

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & POLICY • Michael Henry, Engineer IV

DISTRICT ONE • Cleo Leon Sr., Maintenance Aide II; Phillip Powell, Distributor/Roller Operator

DISTRICT TWO • Jon Anderton, Crew Leader; Lawrence Crift, Motor Patrol Operator – Finish; Andrew Hoggard, Resident Engineer; Brandon James, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Thomas Young, Shop Supervisor

DISTRICT THREE • Paul Gray Jr., Maintenance Aide II; Shane Rothenberger, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator

DISTRICT FOUR • Doyle Davis, Motor Patrol Operator – Finish; Matthew Kildow, Area Headquarters Attendant

DISTRICT FIVE • Rodney Barnett, Bridge Repairer II; Heath Everett, Area Headquarters Attendant; Jeffery Foreman, Multi-Axle Truck Driver

DISTRICT SIX • Steve Mullins Jr., Area Headquarters Attendant; Moses Waiters, Maintenance Aide II

DISTRICT SEVEN • Cory Anderson, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Brian Hampton, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator; Stacy Harding, Distributor/Roller Operator; Joseph Rogers, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT EIGHT • John Bledsoe Jr., Construction Field Engineer II; Timothy Cotton, Construction Aide III; Justin Roy, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT NINE • Colton Cowles, Construction Field Engineer I; Chad Foster, Motor Patrol Operator – Finish

DISTRICT TEN • Johnathon Mormon, Resident Engineer; Paul Nedelman, Asphalt Tank Truck Driver; Jared Roark, Rest Area Attendant

SERVICE

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE • Patricia Brown, Administrative Aide II, 10 years; Shenika Wymes, Motor Carrier Safety Specialist I, 10 years

COMPUTER SERVICES • Tammy Caple, Network Technician III, 35 years

CONSTRUCTION • Britney Burns, Advanced Construction Field Engineer; John Harsell Jr., Resident Engineer

HEAVY BRIDGE MAINTENANCE • Jeffrey Honeycutt, Crew Leader, 15 years

HUMAN RESOURCES • Alicia Garrett, Personnel Officer, 15 years

MAINTENANCE • Tony Sullivan, State Maintenance Engineer, 35 years

MATERIALS • Donnie Thornton, Geotechnical Drill Party Chief, 20 years

PEEL FERRY • Scott Burleson, Pilot–Deck Hand, 10 years

ROADWAY DESIGN • Brian Bettinard I, Advanced Design Engineer, 10 years; Ishwor Gurung, Advanced Design Engineer, 10 years

SYSTEM INFORMATION & RESEARCH • Megan Ferguson, Pavement Management Specialist, 5 years

DISTRICT ONE • Lela Jenkins, Single Axle Truck Driver, 5 years

DISTRICT TWO • Earl Rogers, Senior Mechanic, 5 years

DISTRICT THREE • Deborah Stueart, Area Maintenance Supervisor, 35 years; Eugene Greenwood Jr., Motor Patrol Operator – Finish, 10 years

DISTRICT FOUR • John Boggs, Senior Mechanic, 5 years; Christina Simmons, Multi-Axle Truck Driver, 5 years; Tommy Greenmyer, Senior Mechanic, 5 years

DISTRICT FIVE • Charles Tate, Distributor Operator, 10 Years

DISTRICT SIX • Roger Starling, Hydraulic Excavator Operator – Finish, 10 years; Joylyn Marshall, Maintenance Aide I, 10 years; Billy Bailey, Distributor/Roller Operator, 10 years; David Miller, Maintenance Aide I

DISTRICT SEVEN • Karen Hammonds, Maintenance Aide I, 10 years

DISTRICT EIGHT • Gary Hicks, Senior Mechanic, 10 years; Darrell Barnes, Lowboy or Float Truck Driver, 10 years; Edgar Yates, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator, 5 years

DISTRICT NINE • Teddy Widner, Shop Supervisor, 35 years

DISTRICT TEN • James Hastings, Storeroom Assistant I, 35 years; Rochelle Moore, Distributor/Roller Operator, 10 years

RETIREMENT

CHIEF ENGINEER'S OFFICE • Frank Vozel, Deputy Director & Chief Engineer, 43 years

PERMITS • Howard Stewart, Permit Technician, 10 years

SURVEYS • Steven Jones, Surveys Aide III, 10 years

DISTRICT TWO • Lori Thomas, District Bookkeeper, 17 years; Jimmy Doss, Storeroom Supervisor, 26 years; Perry Bledsoe, Maintenance Aide II, 34 years; Calvin McGriff, Crew Leader, 27 years

DISTRICT THREE • James Garrett, Construction Aide II, 11 years

DISTRICT FOUR • E. Renee Warren, Storeroom Assistant II, 14 years

DISTRICT FIVE • Susan Gatewood, Motor Patrol Operator, 20 years

DISTRICT SIX • Danny Garrett, Crew Leader, 24 years; Michael Allman, Construction Project Coordinator, 40 years

DISTRICT SEVEN • Michael Nelson, Welder, 35 years; Lonnie Garland, Maintenance Aide II, 7 years

DISTRICT EIGHT • James Bridges, Lowboy/Float Truck Driver, 37 years

DISTRICT NINE • Joe Davidson, Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, 42 years

DISTRICT TEN • Gary Morton, Assistant Bridge Inspector, 12 years; Otis Fleming Jr., Crew Leader, 26 years

MEMORIALS

ARKANSAS HIGHWAY POLICE • Sargeant James E. Reed, 1/1/2014, retired

PLANNING & RESEARCH • James E. Johnson, 1/14/2014, retired

DISTRICT ONE • Freddie E. Andrews, 12/29/2013, retired; James H. Harrison, 1/5/2014, retired

DISTRICT FIVE • Roy T. Richmond, 12/10/2013, retired; Leslie Alford Shane, 1/12/2014, retired

DISTRICT SIX • William O. Porter, 12/9/2013, retired; Leonard Bruce Ingle, Sr., 12/11/2013, retired; Rodney Lynn Landers, 12/18/2013, retired; P. B. Bardwell, 1/13/2014, retired

ACTIVE DUTY

As of 1/29/14, the AHTD has two employees serving active duty in the United States military. Deployment dates are noted.

SYSTEM INFORMATION & RESEARCH • E. Wright-Kehner, Staff Research Engineer, 5/30/13

DISTRICT SIX • Jeremy Stokes, Construction Helper, 5/28/13





The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (Department) complies with all civil rights provisions of federal statutes and related authorities that prohibited discrimination in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. Therefore, the Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, national origin, religion or disability, in the admission, access to and treatment in Department's programs and activities, as well as the Department's hiring or employment practices. Complaints of alleged discrimination and inquiries regarding the Department's nondiscrimination policies may be directed to EEO/DBE Section Head (ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator), P. O. Box 2261, Little Rock, AR 72203, (501) 569-2298, (Voice/TTY 711), or the following email address: EEO/DBE_Section_Head@ahtd.ar.gov. This notice is available from the ADA/504/Title VI Coordinator in large print, on audiotape and in Braille.