



Around the District

Lake Red Rock Breaks Out the Greased Watermelons By Tracy Spry, Lake Red Rock

On Saturday, July 1, Lake Red Rock hosted the 8th Annual Whitebreast Beach Party, a special event started initially to encourage families to come to Whitebreast Beach when it was first opened.

This year, many visitors were treated to a new sight; a 15-foot retaining wall, which was recently completed. The wall was constructed to decrease the amount of slope at the beach, allowing easier access for visitors and to lessen the amount of maintenance needed each spring.

Activities included tug o' war, volleyball, a sand sculpture contest, and a greased watermelon relay.

A local radio station pumped up the jams and broadcast live several times during the event. Many of the station's staff helped out by coordinating and "refereeing" the various activities.

Weather conditions were good and approximately 500 people came by car and by boat to participate. The event is co-sponsored by the Corps, the Red Rock Lake Association and by KNIA/KRLS radio station.



Photo by Tracy Spry, Lake Red Rock

First Charges Under Iowa's New Boater Law Filed at Sugar Bottom Campground

What started out as a domestic dispute at a campsite over the Fourth of July holiday, escalated into abuse for a Sugar Bottom camper.

After neighbors called for help for a woman who had been the subject of verbal and physical abuse, her husband fled the scene and took his boat out on the lake. An Iowa Department of Natural Resources water officer caught him and brought him back to the campground.

The subject, who tested at .15 blood alcohol level, was taken to jail and charged with a number of offences related to the domestic disturbance and now has the distinction of being the first in the state charged under Iowa's new operation of a boat while intoxicated law.

Fact or Fishin'?

Lake Red Rock has recently experienced a large influx of families from Minnesota; attracted to the lake by the great fishing.

Reportedly fishing has been good at Lake Red Rock lately, with large numbers of white bass being caught. One extended family was reported to have taken home over 700 white bass the weekend of July 22 and 23.

Many others have been seen taking away buckets full of fish. The information is coming from the creel survey clerk hired by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to do surveys of fisherman throughout the summer.

They Like Us, They Really Like Us

The Corps of Engineers has set an approval rating goal of 90 percent, as part of the National Performance Review for customers of Corps operated recreation areas. To achieve this the customer must rate their overall visit as good or very good during exit surveys.

The Saylorville Lake Project has chosen the Walnut Ridge Recreation Area as the site of this year's survey of customer satisfaction. The survey calls for a sample of 400 visitors per area and a minimum of one area per season.

With nearly one-third of the cards submitted, 98 percent of the customers rank their overall experience as good or very good, with most of the responses being very good. Given the improvements in Walnut Ridge by the installation of an 18-hole disc golf course, Saylorville Lake personnel expect the results to meet or exceed the Corps' goal.

Congrats ...

Congratulations to **Ron and Trine**



Mott, Engineering Division, on the birth of a new son, Hans-Eirik Breyholtz, July 20. He weighed 9 pounds and 14 ounces and was 22 inches long.

Congratulations also to **Rick and Carri Nickel**, Engineering Division, on the birth of a new daughter, Allison Eileen, July 6. She weighed 10 pounds and 2 ounces and was 22 inches long.

Notes from the Mississippi*

Lock and Dam 11, Dubuque, Iowa

- ✓ Dam restriction sign repaired.
- ✓ Dam open gears and zerks greased.
- ✓ Number one lock gate shear bolts replaced.

Lock and Dam 12, Bellevue, Iowa

- ✓ Dam trap door guards repaired and painted.
- ✓ Video shot of all vertical lock walls and correct signage.

Lock and Dam 13, Clinton, Iowa

- ✓ New grating for lock chamber installed.
- ✓ New entry combination doors and doorjamb installed.

Locks and Dam 14, Le Claire, Iowa

- ✓ Chipped wood placed around side-walks and fencing.
- ✓ Tour of facility conducted for Mississippi Valley Division personnel.

Locks and Dam 15, Rock Island, Ill.

- ✓ Number 10 and 11 pier houses painted.
- ✓ Crane painted and new decals attached.

Lock and Dam 16, Muscatine, Iowa

- ✓ Drift wood removed from tainter gates one through 19.
- ✓ Roller chains seven and eight oiled.
- ✓ Mayflies cleaned from lock walls.

Lock and Dam 17, New Boston, Ill.

- ✓ Underground "air leak" repaired.
- ✓ New landscape display flowers planted around site.

Lock and Dam 18, Burlington, Iowa

- ✓ Brace welded to upper tow haulage sheave.
- ✓ Grease hole on number five tainter gate trunnion repaired.
- ✓ Pillow block seal replaced on number one valve.

Lock and Dam 19, Keokuk, Iowa

- ✓ Upper service gate and guard gate lift cables lubricated.
- ✓ Upper land sump pump cleaned.
- ✓ New casters installed on bulkhead lifter.

Lock and Dam 20, Canton, Mo.

- ✓ Eighty trunnion bearings greased on the dam tainter gates.
- ✓ Upper and lower tow haulage units steam cleaned.
- ✓ Small bubbler rebuilt on upper I-wall.

Lock and Dam 21, Quincy, Ill.

- ✓ Broken gear on pontoon motor replaced.
- ✓ Entry gate moved for deckhands to have easy access to pay phone.

Lock and Dam 22, Saverton, Mo.

- ✓ Lock crew caught runaway-unmanned pontoon below lock.
- ✓ Dam safety blocks repaired, painted and replaced.

*This is a small sample of work completed at District Locks and Dams throughout the month.

District Women's Equality Day Luncheon August 9 at 11:30 a.m.

The Special Emphasis Program Committee accepted nominations for the **EEO Champion of the Year Award** and has selected a winner. The award will be presented at the **District Women's Equality Day Luncheon**, which is scheduled for Wednesday, August 9, at the Thunder Bay Grille in Davenport, Iowa, at 11:30 a.m. The speaker will be **Dr. Christine Grant**, Director of Women's Athletics at the University of Iowa.

Tickets are required to attend the event and can be purchased for \$10.50 per ticket from Sally Aidala, Contracting; Susan Brown, Engineering Division; Donna Willey, Operations Division; Gayla Pacheco, Equal Opportunity Office; Nancy Vanderleest, Resource Management, and Aimee Vermeulen, Office of Counsel.

Tickets can also be purchased daily in the Clock Tower cafeteria from 8:45 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. through August 7.

District Commander's Award By Joann Wilgenbusch, Resource Management

Norman P. Hatcher, Engineering Division, was recognized July 13, with the **District Commander's Award for June 2000**, by Col. William Bayles, district commander.

Hatcher successfully completed a 120-day temporary GS-13 position as the project manager for Military Projects from Jan. 30 through May 28. Hatcher worked for Programs and Project Management Division as the liaison between the Rock Island District, Corps of Engineers and the Directorate of Public Works, Rock Island Arsenal.

Hatcher was instrumental in coordinating more than 100 individual work items of District support to the DPW. During this same time frame, Hatcher also continued many of the duties of his permanent position in the Engineering Division. He coordinated many of the delivery orders for the newly established Regional Job Order Contract to facilitate the accomplishment of various projects for a variety of customers. 

