

RIP RAP

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District

4101 Jefferson Plaza N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87109

www.facebook.com/albuquerquedistrict
http://www.flickr.com/photos/usace_albuquerque
Web: <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil>

In early April, the Corps initiated the actions for a planned deviation to detain spring runoff flows at Cochiti Lake for a later release that would facilitate spawning and recruitment of the Rio Grande silvery minnow. However, the deviation cannot take place unless runoff forecasts predict enough flow volume, which isn't the case so far.

Photo by Ronnie Schelby



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**®
Albuquerque District

Volume 24, Issue 4
April 2012

In this issue...

District Happenings

Pages 1-9

Focus on People

Pages 10-11

News Briefs

Page 12

District Engineer,
Lt. Col. Jason Williams

RipRap is an unofficial publication authorized by AR 360-1. It is published by the Public Affairs Office, Albuquerque District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The views and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army. Reader input is welcome. Photographs are official USACE photos unless otherwise indicated. For submission and writers' guidelines, contact the editor at 505-342-3171 or send email to: kristen.skopec@usace.army.mil

South Pacific Division Commander Promoted to Brigadier General

Acting Army Chief of Engineers Maj. Gen. Merdith "Bo" Temple promoted South Pacific Division Commander Col. Michael C. Wehr to the rank of Brigadier General March 15 in a ceremony at the San Francisco War Memorial Veterans Building.

Brig. Gen. Wehr said his career as an engineer officer has been an incredible journey made possible by family, friends and faith. There have been numerous teachers and colleagues who coached him to deliver on his potential. This has motivated him to actively seek out the potential in others.

"We've all had opportunity to help one another deliver on potential," Brig. Gen. Wehr said. "Life is full of opportunities where each of us takes up the torch, carries it well, and then passes it on to others to carry into the future. There is tremendous connection with our history along the journey. We are so much better together than alone."

His wife Deborah and his father Lt. Col. (Retired) Arthur Wehr pinned on his new rank amidst applause from family, friends and a full house of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers senior leaders and employees, including the commanders of the Sacramento, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Albuquerque districts. Special guests included members of American Legion District 8 who offered the hospitality of their historic hall in the War Memorial for the celebration. The hall is distinguished as the historic site of the United Nations Charter signing in 1945.

As Division Commander, Brig. Gen. Wehr is responsible for the Corps of Engineers \$1.2 billion military and civil works programs in California,



USACE photo

Maj. Gen. Merdith "Bo" Temple administers the oath to newly promoted Brig. Gen. Michael Wehr (right) March 15.

Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and parts of five other western states. Key missions include engineering, construction, environmental restoration and emergency response.

Brig. Gen. Wehr grew up in a military family and considers California home, having graduated in the Jesuit High School Class of 1981 in Sacramento. He studied civil engineering and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant through ROTC at Santa Clara University in 1985. His additional education includes a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas and assignment to the U.S. Army War College as a Military Fellow at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Security Studies Program. Recent assignments include service in Afghanistan as the Engineer Director for the NATO Training Mission and Command of the Army Corps of Engineers Vicksburg District. His overseas tours include Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Japan Engineer District.

Kirtland Gets More Room for Space Development and Test

By Ronnie Schelby, Public Affairs

Members of the District joined Kirtland Air Force Base leadership, public officials and many others in a celebration March 15 for the completion of new building 415a for research.

The project is a two-story, open storage building that will support the mission of the base's Space Development and Test Directorate.

The Directorate's Acting Director Col. Carol P. Welsch praised the \$4.5 million project and the Corps' role in the building's completion, saying it was finished on time and budget.

John Moreno, chief of Engineering and Construction Division, represented the Corps and helped cut a ribbon to symbolize that the building is now ready to be occupied.



Pictured (left to right): John Garcia, director of economic development, City of Albuquerque; Thomas Berardinelli, director of staff, 377th Air Base Wing; John Moreno, chief of Engineering and Construction, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Roger Newell, veterans affairs liaison, City of Albuquerque; Col. Carol P. Welsch, acting director, Space Development and Test Directorate; and Leah Moran, wife of Col. Moran, director, Space Development and Test Directorate, who is deployed to Afghanistan.

Construction Abounds at Holloman Air Force Base

Hanger building 500 and Fire Station 2 are just two examples of several vertical construction projects the Corps is building for the Airmen at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M.

The hanger was given a new addition and a recently paved parking lot, as well as a new epoxy floor. The fire station project included construction of a 10-bay working fire station that has the capacity of housing a rotating fire crew. Included in the fire facility are eight living quarters which act as bedrooms and personal space for the resident crew members. In addition, there is a crew chief living area. The facility also includes a fully equipped weight room with sauna, a functional kitchen, parking for low-emitting vehicles and a bicycle rack.



Colorado to be Next Focus of Rio Grande Basin Partnering Meeting

By Kristen Skopect, Public Affairs

The Corps is a lead agency in addressing flood risk management, ecosystem restoration and tribal and recreation concerns in the Rio Grande Basin.

The agency shares concern with others about the basin and its tributaries, as it faces multiple environmental problems like ecosystem degradation, competing demands for minimal resources, timing and delivery of water into and through the basin and water quality, as well as climate changes.

To discuss solutions, the agency has joined representatives from federal, state, local and tribal entities across Texas, New Mexico and Colorado to review technical, professional and public concerns during ‘stakeholder’ meetings.

Albuquerque District hosted a

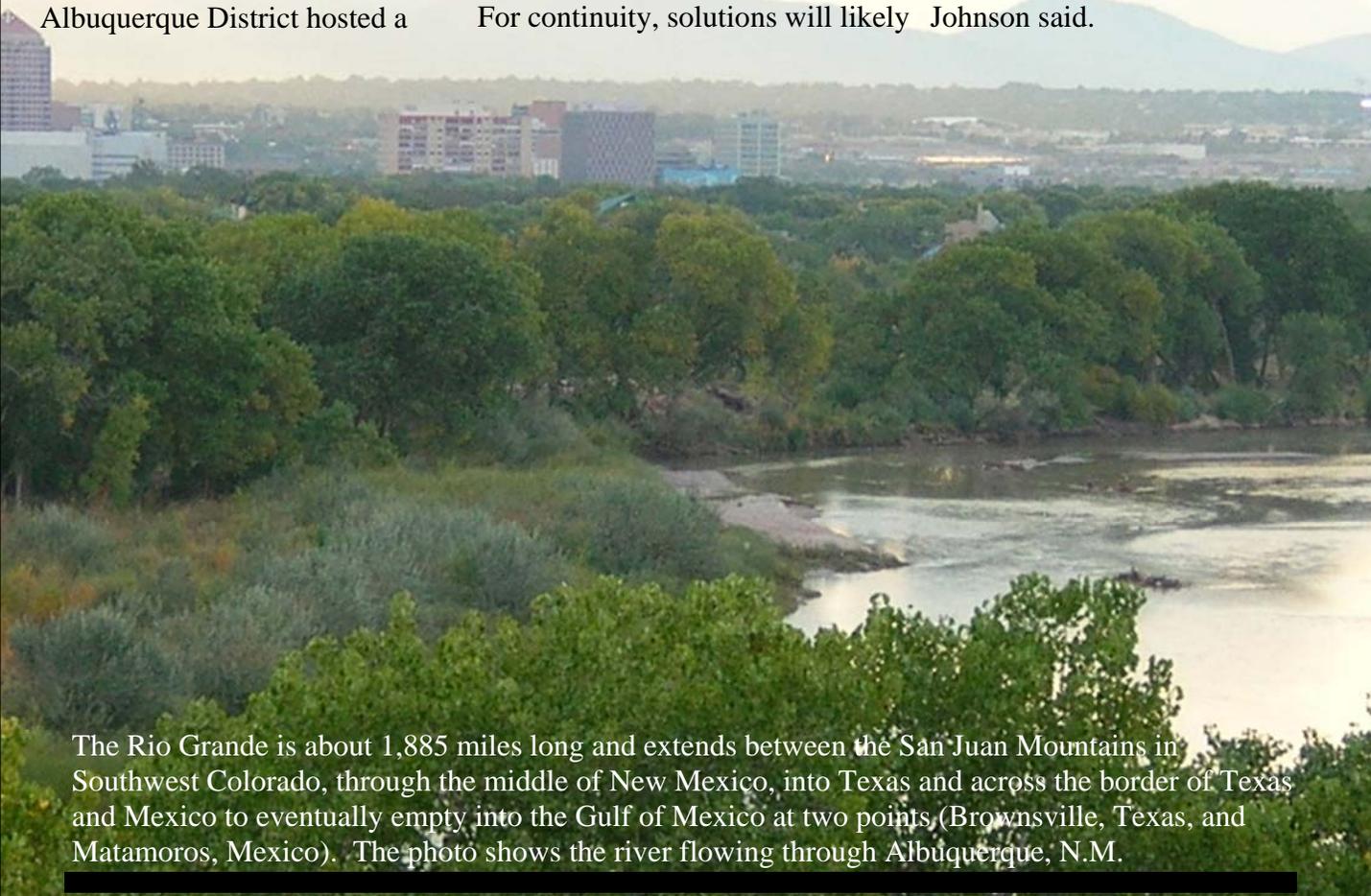
meeting that focused primarily on the basin in New Mexico, and a meeting took place in Austin, Texas, that concentrated on the basin in Texas. A meeting is scheduled for May 7 and 8 at Adams State College in Colorado to focus on the issues facing Colorado, as the headwaters state for the Rio Grande.

“These meetings help to bring stakeholders in the basin together to discuss issues and opportunities and form potential partnerships to address these issues,” said District Civil Works Project Manager Alicia Austin Johnson. “The Corps, for instance, will follow-up on potential partnerships that involve Corps’ authorities and provide resources as feasible and applicable to support other efforts. For continuity, solutions will likely

be readdressed at the next basin meeting to keep momentum.”

One product that stakeholders from across the basin have expressed interest in is a basin-wide database for sharing information, modeled after the Upper Mississippi Basin Long-term Management Program. The provision for such was included in the recently expired authorization for the Rio Grande Environmental Management Program. Reauthorization of this program is a goal for several stakeholders.

“One of the most valuable aspects of the basin meetings is the ability to network and make connections that may shape the future of water resources planning, as it pertains to this important and legendary water source,” Austin Johnson said.



The Rio Grande is about 1,885 miles long and extends between the San Juan Mountains in Southwest Colorado, through the middle of New Mexico, into Texas and across the border of Texas and Mexico to eventually empty into the Gulf of Mexico at two points (Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Mexico). The photo shows the river flowing through Albuquerque, N.M.

This activity supports our Operations Plan: Action 8 (Develop a risk-informed and budget-aligned lifecycle asset management plan to optimize critical infrastructure investment).

District Happenings

Dam Safety Prep is District Priority

By Elizabeth Lockyear, Public Affairs

With much of the Pecos River basin in an exceptional drought according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, now may seem like a strange time to focus on dam safety at Santa Rosa Dam, N.M. However, that's exactly where the focus was March 15, when the District's Dam Safety Program Manager Suzi Hess-Brittelle and Readiness and Contingency Operations (RCO) Emergency Management Specialists Don Gallegos and Theresa Rogers conducted a dam safety exercise at the dam.

The goal was to increase preparation should a significant event occur. Dennis Garcia, chief of the District's Reservoir Control Branch, said exercises like this are absolutely vital to help ensure a successful outcome in an emergency.

"Communication is a huge part of it," said Theresa Rogers. "Communication not just within the District, but also with first responders is important. One session of the exercise went over categories of conditions that warrant immediate attention and when and who to call based on these conditions."

At the Santa Rosa exercise, 20 internal and external stakeholders participated including representatives from New Mexico State Police, Guadalupe County Sheriff, New Mexico Department of Homeland Security, New Mexico State Parks and the National Weather Service.

The exercise consisted primarily of tabletop discussion based on possible scenarios such as a significant rain event coupled with high snow runoff. These scenarios also illustrated the interconnectivity of the whole Pecos River Basin. Actions taken at Santa Rosa Dam have to balance the conditions at the dam with conditions along the entire river. For example,



Emergency Management Specialist Don Gallegos explained scenarios for discussion during the dam safety exercise to participants.



Photos by Lisa Lockyear

while there may be a need to reduce the water level at Santa Rosa to prevent it from spilling over the dam, too much water released too quickly could cause water to back up at other dams downstream, resulting in flooding.

Plans are in the works for further exercises to help enhance readiness, should the unthinkable happen in the river basin.

Albuquerque Transfers Ice Mission to Charleston District

By Kristen Skopec, Public Affairs

Each year, the Charleston and Albuquerque districts trade off the lead of the Corps' National Ice Team mission. This year, the lead transferred back to Charleston during a ceremony April 2, where ice was symbolically handed from Albuquerque to Charleston via a video teleconference.

"Last year there were 20 tropical cyclones, 19 tropical storms and seven hurricanes, with four of the seven qualifying as major hurricanes, yet there was only one activation for the ice mission from Albuquerque District," said Emergency Operations Chief Russ Jaramillo. "Although it was basically a non-deployment year, the team stood ready and underwent considerable preparation, planning, training and maintenance to be ready to leave with little notice, which is impressive considering the



team is staffed entirely by volunteers."

The federal government's emergency response kicks in when incidents or disasters completely overwhelm local governments. At that point, it is up to a state's governor to ask for the federal government's help.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has the responsibility of coordinating government-wide relief efforts. FEMA uses the National Response Framework (NRF) to facilitate a unified national response to disasters. Under the NRF, there are 15

Photos by Kris Skopec



To see this story in video:
[www.spa.usace.army.mil/
videos/ICE.wmv](http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/videos/ICE.wmv)

Emergency Support Functions with listed protocols. ESF #3, Public Works and Engineering, covers the Corps' emergency response actions, including to provide ice.

The Corps executes emergency response activities under two authorities, the Stafford Act and the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency Act.

Remembering and Covering 26.2

The District's Honorary Commander Christine Glidden and Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Richard Collins took part in the 23rd Annual Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., March 25. They mostly ran the challenging 26.2 mile course through the high desert in honor of the heroic service members who defended the Philippine Islands during World War II, sacrificing their freedom, health and, in many cases, their lives. The location and conditions of the march enable participants to experience, in part, what Soldiers endured during the forced trek across the Philippines.



Photo courtesy of Christine Glidden

Corps Addresses Water Resource Challenges with Assistance From Native American Tribes

By Kristen Skopeck, Public Affairs

In Albuquerque District's area of responsibility, Native American Tribes or Pueblos control 80 percent of the land in the middle Rio Grande Valley. For the Corps to be successful in addressing any water resource challenge in the valley, be it endangered species or drought, tribes must be intimately involved in developing potential solutions.

The District employed Dr. Ron Kneebone as an outreach coordinator in 2001. Around 2003, he became known as "Tribal Liaison," as the Corps came to understand the importance of a close working relationship with tribes. Now, working with tribes is Kneebone's full-time job.

"The District works with tribes to be successful in our mission to serve the nation," Kneebone said. "Tribes can be powerful proponents or opponents to any undertaking. By working closely with them, we can help our undertakings be more successful by putting tribes in the position of being advocates rather than blockers of projects. The geographic location of tribes, especially in the West, makes them important partners in any effort."

According to Kneebone, federal recognition of an Indian Tribe constitutes designation of a Native community as a political sovereign within the U.S. federalist system. As a result, the Corps, as part of the federal government, has a unique 'Trust relationship' with each tribe based on the U.S. Constitution, treaties, statutes, court decisions and executive orders. That 'Trust relationship' requires the Corps to protect and preserve tribal resources to the greatest extent possible. Simply put, working with tribes fulfills that Trust responsibility.

When Kneebone started, there were no projects of any kind with tribal governments. Today, the District has a diverse working relationship with numerous tribes that involves cost-shared civil works projects, including



District Commander Lt. Col. Jason Williams presents Dr. Ron Kneebone with an Army Achievement Medal for his tribal liaison work.

construction, feasibility and watershed studies, as well as partnered co-management at a couple of the District's operating projects (dams).

"Within the past seven years we've done approximately \$27 million worth of work with tribes, with another \$20 million in potential work that could take place during the next three to four years," Kneebone said.

Interestingly, Kneebone said language differences are a big hurdle. He often sees one of his main functions as that of translator. This may seem odd, he said, because both sides speak English, but it can be common for people who think they're speaking the same language to get tied up in misunderstandings.

"Few tribes have any history of working with the Corps, and the Corps has unique (among federal agencies) authorization and funding processes with which tribes are completely unfamiliar," he said. "Add to that the Corps' innumerable acronyms, programs and regulations and it's common to have people look at you like you're speaking gibberish."

On the other hand, Kneebone has a big challenge when conveying to the Corps the unique structure of Native American governments and their equally unique relationship with the federal government. Tribes are subject to federal law, but operate under their own constitutions, administer their own judicial

—Continued on next page

This activity supports our Operations Plan: Action 5 (Develop collaborative approaches to address watershed-based, multi-stakeholder and multi-benefit water resource challenges).

District Happenings

From previous page—

systems and administer self-managed tax and regulatory regimes. Furthermore, tribes are culturally unique with different languages, beliefs and origins. With more than 565 federally recognized tribes in the United States, the Corps' Tribal Nations community of practice is kept busy by keeping up with the diversity.

"When I started to work with the District there were tribes who refused to be in a room with Corps representatives for longer than 10 minutes," Kneebone said. "It would literally take years to get responses to proposed actions, if ever. Today, we meet on a regular basis with those same tribes, and we've established efficient working relationships. We often are

able to conduct business in a matter of hours that previously would have taken years.

These kinds of relationships are good for the country and Native American communities."

Dr. Georgeie Reynolds is the Senior Tribal Liaison at the Corps' headquarters, and she took the position about the same time Kneebone came into the position in Albuquerque.

"Because of Dr. Reynolds dedication at headquarters, coupled with the successes of those of us in the districts, we've progressed from a handful of people wondering what our involvement with tribes should be to a couple of hundred multi-disciplinary specialists in intergovernmental relations and intercultural communications," Kneebone said.

District Hosts Meeting for Newly Elected Tribal Leaders

Tribal leadership in New Mexico changes fairly regularly, with most tribes changing annually, and New Mexico Senator Jeff Bingaman's office approached the District to see if the Corps could help provide a location for new tribal leadership to meet and exchange information with representatives from local federal agencies.

District leadership thought it was a great idea, so the senator's staff reached out to multiple federal agencies for a list of presenters and sent an invitation to the 19 pueblo governors inviting them to attend a meeting March 27.



Photo by Lisa Lockyear

"Our local Senate offices are not big enough to have a meeting of this size," said Janelle Frederick, field representative in the senator's office.

"Luckily, the Corps had a large conference room that was available, and the Corps also

agreed to present its programs to the tribal leaders. I know how having a face that goes with a name makes for much easier communication between the tribal leaders and the federal agencies when issues arise," Frederick said.

Divers Assess Placement of John Martin Dam Supports

By Kristen Skopec, Public Affairs

A project is planned to replace damaged and, in some cases, missing bulkhead gate supports at the District's John Martin Dam. The existing supports have been in place since the dam was built more than 50 years ago.

Preliminary work by divers will not affect visitors and will assess the conditions around the existing supports, as a concern exists about sediment that has collected there.

According to Lev Bogle, civil engineer in the Maintenance Engineering Unit of the Operations Technical Support Section, new steel supports were fabricated and will be attached to the upstream surface of the dam, immediately below the conduit inlets by means of anchor bolts, as soon as divers can safely perform the replacement.

Bogle is the project manager and District dive coordinator. He will assist the dive team from the Army's 511th EN Dive DET of Fort Eustis, Va., who will eventually install the supports. John Martin Park Ranger Craig Trinkle will provide daily oversight.

"This is a non-routine, operation and maintenance project," Bogle said. "The supports are old and need replacing, but the dive team's safety is the first priority."

A bulkhead gate is a rectangular-steel construction that is

lowered into place to seal off the conduit inlets. When the bulkhead gate is in position, the emergency and service gates within the dam can be opened for inspection and repair.

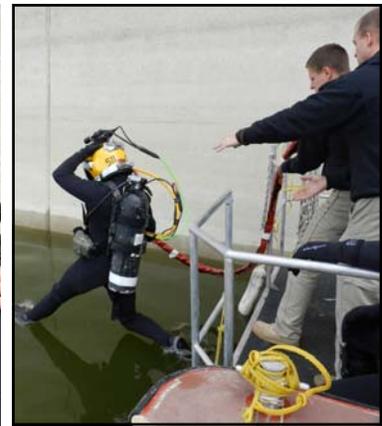
"A job requiring divers is unusual for us, as we rarely do any diving in the Albuquerque

District," Bogle said.

"However, we've worked with this Army dive team before at the Blue Hole in Santa Rosa, N.M. They are a first-rate unit. We're fortunate to have them as a resource, and we're looking forward to future work with them."



Photos by Craig Trinkle



FUDS Exhibit Draws a Crowd at El Centro Air Show

By Ronnie Schelby, Public Affairs

Have you ever been outside riding your bike or camping and stumbled upon something that looked suspiciously like a bomb or a dangerous object? If you did, what was your reaction? Did you want to pick it up? Well don't do it!!! If you didn't drop it, don't pick it up! **RECOGNIZE!! RETREAT!! REPORT!!**

These were the messages the Corps' Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) team was communicating during the El Centro, Calif., Air Show March 10.

Sonny Franks, District FUDS project manager, teamed up with Randy Tabije, a FUDS project manager from Los Angeles District, and contractors from Bristol Environmental Remediation Services, Inc., to attend the show and talk to people. And, more than 10,500 people, approximately one-fourth of the El Centro population, attended the show.

"The focus of our team is to educate individuals 25 years and younger regarding the hazards of finding unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the desert and bringing it home," Franks said.

El Centro and the surrounding land is prime for finding UXO because during World War II the area was used as the Desert Training Center, California-Arizona Maneuver Area. There, commanded by General George Patton, more than one million U.S. forces trained and carried out military maneuvers.



Photo by Ronnie Schelby

A young visitor to the air show learned about UXO by talking to FUDS Project Manager Sonny Franks (right). He also spent time playing a beanbag toss game at the FUDS booth.

This area, often referred to as Patton's Playground, covers 18,000 square miles from approximately Pomona, Calif., east to Phoenix, Ariz. and south to Yuma, Ariz. The southern border of Nevada, is rife with numerous UXO.

The booth was set up with various shapes and sizes of inert ordnance on a table right in front, and most passersby, especially children and teens who visited the booth, immediately reached out to touch the items. A FUDS representative was always there to say "Don't touch the ordnance." It was a clever way to reach the teens and to explain how finding ordnance can have dangerous consequences.

"It is natural to be curious and want to touch something,

but these items can be fatal, and that's why we have the ordnance display set up in this manner," said Franks. "We want to make a point and hopefully break the desire to pick up a UXO."

Several attendees shared stories of having come upon various types of ordnance. Some related stories of friends who picked up ordnance and brought it home, and it didn't end well. Others shared information about where they had seen UXO. The FUDS team had a map on hand to mark these locations, so they can follow up.

The El Centro Air Show is the sixth of nine shows that the FUDS team will be attending to educate people this fiscal year.

Working on Engineering a World Away District Project Manager Lends Expertise to Mission in Japan

By Kristen Skopeck, Public Affairs

When Project Manager Michael Fies joined the Corps in 2000, he told his wife, who is Japanese, that he would keep an eye open for an opportunity to do a tour of duty in Japan. Seven years later, a position came open in Pacific Ocean Division, Japan District (POJ).

At the time, Fies was working as a project manager in Albuquerque District's Planning, Projects and Program Management Division, and he said he was happily employed. He discussed the opportunity with his wife and family and, after some soul searching, decided to accept the offer for the position in Japan for her and the family.

Fies has been working for POJ for nearly three years and is nearing the end of his tour. He and his family will return to Albuquerque in late May.

"Being overseas is both rewarding and enlightening," Fies said. "Just to experience other cultures and to learn how business is conducted elsewhere makes it worthwhile. I am proud to be able to represent the United States and to share our customs and knowledge. And, I am sure I will incorporate some of the positive techniques I've learned into projects when I return."

As one of four districts in the Corps' Pacific Ocean Division, POJ began its operations in 1972 but its origins lie amid the destruction left by World War II. Today, POJ's missions involve military construction and managing the largest Host Nation funded design and construction program in the world.

According to Fies, there are cultural and personality challenges, as well as different



Photo Courtesy of Michael Fies

The Fies family likes to visit Japan's Golden Pavilion in Kyoto.

approaches to designing projects in Japan. Additionally, there are challenges such as incorporating Japanese construction methodology and materials into designs, budgeting with the ever-changing monetary exchange rate, and trying to comply with U.S. and Japanese standards and regulations which are sometimes incompatible with each other.

"In addition to continuous coordination with U.S. stakeholders and Japanese design teams, a lot of time is now being spent on resolving sustainable design issues, given the amount of inconsistencies between U.S. (LEED) and

—Continued on next page

From previous page—



Michael Fies stands in front of a geotechnical drilling operation site on Sagami General Depot.

Japanese (CASBEE) requirements,” he said. “It adds another wrinkle to the design efforts and requires particular attention to the scoping and negotiations of design contracts.”

Fies said he came to Japan to do whatever he could to help POJ successfully execute its mission and consistently carried a large workload and routinely volunteered to take on challenging projects. While there, he stepped forward to take on additional duties as Acting Chief and took the training to get Contracting Officer’s Representative certification to help alleviate a shortage of that credential.

“I will come away from Japan very impressed and humbled by the Japanese people’s strong sense of respect and responsibility, love of life and pride in their country, as well as their exceptionally strong work ethic,” said Fies. “I am happy to have been able to work in Japan, helping the Corps do good work for both the United States and Japan. And, I am fortunate to call many Japanese co-workers ‘friends.’”

Fies added that he has cherished getting to know the Japanese customs and beliefs.

“The Japanese, as a whole, really like Americans and our ‘can-do’ attitudes, although they are sometimes surprised by our directness and seemingly outrageous behavior,” he said. “They are polite and wonderful to work with, and they are a big factor in the success here.”

While working in Japan, the Fies family lived in a townhouse just over a third of the size of their home in Rio Rancho, N.M. One

of the biggest challenges they faced was learning to drive on the left-hand side of the road.

“Here, the pedestrian definitely has the right of way on all but the major highways,” Fies said. “Most roads are very narrow and do not have sidewalks. People walk and ride bikes in the street. Some stores are literally less than two feet off the road, so you have to contend with shoppers standing on the road or coming in and out of the shops. When driving, you have to be aware of all of this. To compound this, Oba-chans (grandmothers) are notorious for walking or riding their bikes wherever they wish without regard to traffic. So, you always have to look out for them. I used to get sweaty driving around, but now I zip around just like the locals.”

Fies said his wife has made many friends and is taking shamisen lessons (a three-stringed Japanese musical instrument). His son became involved with Aikido (martial arts) and participated in a sumo wrestling event. His daughter danced on the stage at the summer Bon-Odori festivals, played soccer and made some visits to Japanese elementary schools.

“Both of my kids participated in a soroban (Japanese abacus) club and competed with Japanese kids,” he said. “As a family, we have loved going to the onsens (hot springs) and all of the historical sites.”

Ultimately, Fies said he has a new appreciation and respect for the Japanese people.

“To see how the Japanese reacted in the days and weeks after the Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami is a tremendously valuable lesson for the entire world,” he said. “There was no rioting, crime, or complaining. The country pulled together as one to help each other without expecting anything in return. It was stunning to see how people formed neat, orderly lines to wait for meager food and water rations, and how recovered belongings and valuables were placed along roads so their owners might reclaim them.”

Although not sure what he’ll be working on when he returns to Albuquerque District, Fies said he is looking forward to switching gears and solving engineering challenges at home.

Flood Fight Course Offered Locally

The New Mexico Department of Homeland Security, Division of Emergency Management has invited District Strategic Planner Cheryl Buckel to facilitate the FEMA G361 Flood Fight Operations course on 25-26 April at the Albuquerque Fire Academy and 2-3 May in Las Cruces, New Mexico.

This course is open to New Mexico emergency responders and managers in all levels of government. To register for this course go to <https://www.preparingnewmexico.org/index.aspx>.

ACE-IT Loans Various Equipment

Did You Know...ACE-IT has the following items available for loan: digital cameras, portable projection systems, TV/VCR, video cameras, PA system, screens, display boards, flip charts and easels?

If someone in your section is celebrating a significant event (like a retirement), feel free to check out a camera or equipment to capture memorable images of the event.

Quality Management System TRIVA

Starting this month, the Albuquerque District Rip Rap will have a new QMS trivia section. Each month's Rip Rap will feature 3-5 QMS trivia-related questions, and the first three people who respond to gregory.s.allen@usace.army.mil with the correct answers will receive Level 1 Corps Bucks to be used in the District's "Corps Store."

Here are the trivia questions for April:

- 1) Who are the Quality Management Representative and Quality Manager for the district?
- 2) How many E&C QMS Processes currently exist at HQUSACE level on the QMS SharePoint?
- 3) How many Regulatory QMS Processes currently exist at SPD level on the QMS SharePoint?
- 4) What year and month was the HQUSACE QMS SharePoint site up and running?
- 5) Which USACE Campaign Plan Goal and Objective does QMS implementation fall under?

Finance Corner

QMS Based Training



Albuquerque District kicked off Quality Management System (QMS) Role Based Training last month. The training is mandated by Division's Operation Order 2011-01, issued August 2011. The purpose of the training is to ensure everyone understands their responsibilities related to their functional role. The training is provided for the following roles: Quality Council, Division Leads, Mid-Level Managers, Functional Level Employees, Quality Management Representative and Quality Manager. It is important for everyone to understand their role in using QMS and operating smarter and more efficiently to meet or exceed our customer's expectations. The goal of this training is to increase the use of Standard Business Processes across the Corps, which is what QMS is all about!

Earth Day Founder, U.S. Senator Gaylord Neson, Tells How it Started

Actually, the idea for Earth Day evolved over a period of seven years starting in 1962.

For several years, it had been troubling me that the state of our environment was simply a non-issue in the politics of the



country. Finally, in November 1962, an idea occurred to me that was, I thought, a virtual cinch to put the environment into the political "limelight" once and for all.

The idea was to persuade President Kennedy to go on a five-day, 11-state conservation tour. It actually didn't put the issue on the national political agenda, but it did flower into Earth Day.