

**Arkansas Highways**  
SPRING 1989

# ***From the Director's Desk***

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## **Legislative Session - Most Difficult In Years**

The recently completed legislative session was one of the most difficult sessions in many years. There were no major programs passed during the session and the prospects are great that a special session will be necessary later to address many of the State's pressing problems. . .including highways.

As you know, the Highway Commission had proposed a comprehensive Economic Development Corridor Program. It became obvious during the session that the mood was luke-warm, at best, to the consideration of any major revenue enhancement proposals. With this in mind, the Highway Commission decided late in the session to withdraw the proposal. This decision was made following much deliberation and consultation with the House and Senate sponsors. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Senator Jack Gibson and Representative John Lipton and their co-sponsors, as well as all of the other members of the General Assembly who have continued to be supportive of highway programs over the years.

The Commission and many of the legislators firmly believe there is strong support for the program and the benefits to be derived from it. This support has been evident over the past 18 months as the Highway Commission traveled throughout the State meeting with thousands of Arkansans.

Very few questioned the merits of the program. When we started working on this proposal, we knew it would be expensive, but we believed it was necessary if Arkansas was to enhance its economic development.

This concept is not a new one. Many of our neighboring states have undertaken similar programs in the past few years and they are now beginning to realize the benefits. Arkansas must have a system of four-lane highways in the very near future or else we will be passed by as industry continues to locate and grow in the surrounding states. We cannot afford to sit back much longer and watch as our neighbors continue to make great strides in their economic development programs at our expense.

The Economic Development Corridor Program has merit. The concept alone has produced many accomplishments already. We now have communities throughout the State working together in a spirit of cooperation rather than competitiveness. This proposal has increased the awareness of Arkansans as to the importance of four-lane corridors and the opportunities such highways present. It has never been our objective to guarantee economic success with this program. However, without this program one of the essential tools needed by communities to achieve such success will be missing. We will continue to work for this program in the future.

I would like to thank the employees of AHTD who had to battle the ice and snow in early March. You did an excellent job on night shifts and weekends to keep the traffic flowing.



**MAURICE SMITH**  
Director of Highways & Transportation

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maurice Smith". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Maurice Smith  
Director of Highways & Transportation

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# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

ARKANSAS  
STATE  
HIGHWAY  
COMMISSION



**Raymond Pritchett**  
Chairman



**Ron Harrod**  
Vice Chairman



**Rodney Slater**  
Member



**L.W. "Bill" Clark**  
Member



**Bobby Hopper**  
Member

**Maurice Smith**  
Director of  
Highways & Transportation

**Dan Flowers**  
Assistant Director

**Charles Venable**  
Chief Engineer

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FRONT COVER PHOTO: State Highway 60 in Perry County.  
Photo by John Jackson.

BACK COVER PHOTO: Interstate 430 Bridge in Pulaski County.  
Photo by John Jackson.

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PHOTOGRAPHER ..... John Jackson

## Pritchett Elected Chairman of Arkansas Highway Commission

Raymond Pritchett of Maumelle has been elected Chairman of the Arkansas Highway Commission, and Ron Harrod of Prescott has been elected Vice Chairman. Both men were elected at a special Commission meeting held February 1. Both will serve two years in office.

Pritchett succeeds Bobby Hopper of Springdale as Chairman of the Commission. He was appointed to a ten-year term on the Commission in 1981 by former Governor Frank White to replace George Kell of Newport whose term had expired. Pritchett is a graduate of Lepanto High School and Hendrix College and currently owns his own accounting firm. He is a Certified Public Accountant, and an active member of several CPA associations, including the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Harrod joined the Commission in 1983. He was appointed by Governor Bill Clinton to a ten-year term to replace James Branyan of Camden. Harrod is a graduate of Dumas High School and Ouachita Baptist University, and operates a life



Ron Harrod and Raymond Pritchett

and health insurance agency in Prescott. He served as a member of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board from 1979 to the time of his appointment to the Highway Commission, and is a past member of the Prescott School Board.



Bobby Hopper

## Hopper Reappointed To Ten-Year Term On Commission

Bobby Hopper of Springdale, a retired automobile dealer, was reappointed to a ten-year term on the Arkansas Highway Commission by Governor Bill Clinton on January 17, 1989.

Hopper, was appointed to the Highway Commission in January 1983 by Governor Clinton to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of the late F.H. Martin of Fayetteville.

Hopper became the first person in history to be appointed to the Arkansas Highway Commission for successive terms. His current term will expire in 1999.



### Equipment Auction Draws A Crowd

The annual AHTD surplus and obsolete equipment auction was held November 22, 1988 at the Central Shop Complex and, as usual, a crowd of more than 500 was on hand to bid on the "bargains". By the time the dust had settled, 436 items had been auctioned off bringing in \$391,758.

Blackmon Auctions, Inc. of Little Rock, who have conducted 11 of the last 15 auctions, again conducted the huge sale. Brothers Tom and Jim Blackmon alternated as the auctioneer and were assisted by several ringmen, whose primary responsibility is to "work" the crowd to produce higher bids.

Sold at the sale were items which had served their useful life and were due for replacement, items which had become obsolete, and some items which simply no longer worked. Everything from scrap iron and used tires to frontend loaders and dump trucks was auctioned off.

The most popular selling items were tractor mowers, pickup trucks, dump trucks, and se-mans. Equipment dealers, contractors, and used car dealers made up the majority of the crowd, with some coming from as far away as Michigan.

The general public is invited to the auctions as well, and several persons attended hoping to pick up a good deal on a second-hand car or truck.

Equipment and Procurement Division Head Al Sacco said he was pleased with the results of this years auction, and that the overall auction process is working out much better than the sealed bid method which was used previously. "The auctions have proved to be much more profitable than the sealed bids," he said.



Jim and Tom Blackmon

# Adopt-A-Highway Program Growing in Popularity

You may notice an increasing number of safety vest-clad individuals working alongside Arkansas' state highways this spring. They won't be pouring concrete or patching asphalt. As a matter of fact, they won't even be Highway and Transportation Department employees. Chances are, they will be part of a group that is participating in the AHTD's Adopt-A-Highway Program cleaning up the State's roadsides.

The Adopt-A-Highway Program was designed to allow volunteer groups to "adopt" a particular section of state highway for the purpose of litter control. The adopting organization agrees to hold regular cleanups along that section of highway for a pre-determined length of time, generally one year.

To assist the adopting group with their efforts, the AHTD agrees to:

- 1) coordinate the cleanup activities with the group and monitor the activity for safety;
- 2) furnish safety vests, advance warning signs, and litter bags;
- 3) dispose of the bagged litter;
- 4) erect signs at each end of the adopted stretch of highway to provide public recognition for the adopting organization, and
- 5) notify the local news media of the group's activities to promote the program and the group.

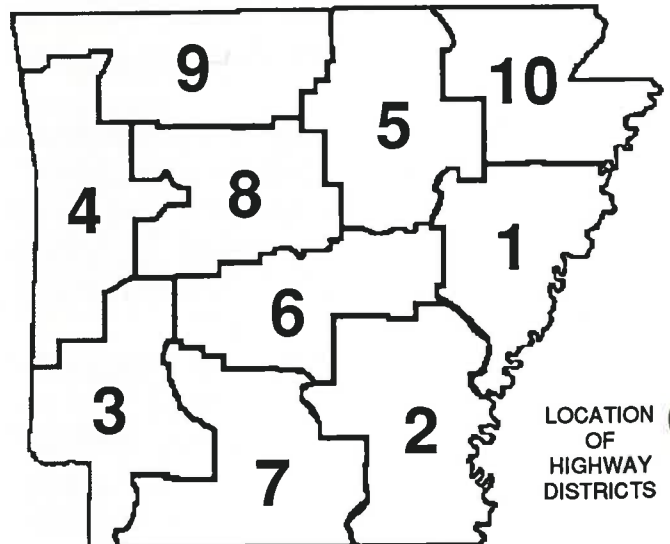
Since the Adopt-A-Highway Program began in July 1987, the number of group participating has increased steadily. By July 1988, the program had grown to include 88 adopted sec-



The Felsenthal Committee of the Crossett Area Chamber of Commerce was the second organization to adopt a section of highway for the Adopt-A-Highway Program.

tions of highway totaling over 223 miles. This included sections of roads in 30 of Arkansas' 75 counties and all ten highway districts.

The program continued to grow through the fall and winter months, and by the end of Febru-



## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

ary 1989, 385 miles of highway had been adopted by 158 groups in 45 counties.

Even though the Department has issued news releases and printed brochures to help promote the program, it seems to sell itself best by word-of-mouth. For example, an Extension Homemakers Club in southwest Arkansas adopted a section of highway in its hometown and relayed information about the program to other E.H.C.'s around the State. Since then, 24 other Extension Homemakers Clubs have adopted sections of roadways.

The program has also spread like wildfire through certain communities. Monticello currently has 18 adopted sections of highway, the Crossett/Hamburg area has 12, and Heber Springs has 11.

One interesting aspect of the Adopt-A-Highway program to date has been the diversity of its participants and their reasons for joining. Any civic group, non-profit organization, club, business, or concerned citizen group can participate. Adopting groups are free to select the stretch of highway they wish to beautify (excluding Interstate and Interstate-type highways), how often they agree to clean it, and for what length of time they wish to participate. Generally speaking, it is suggested that groups adopt a 2-3 mile section

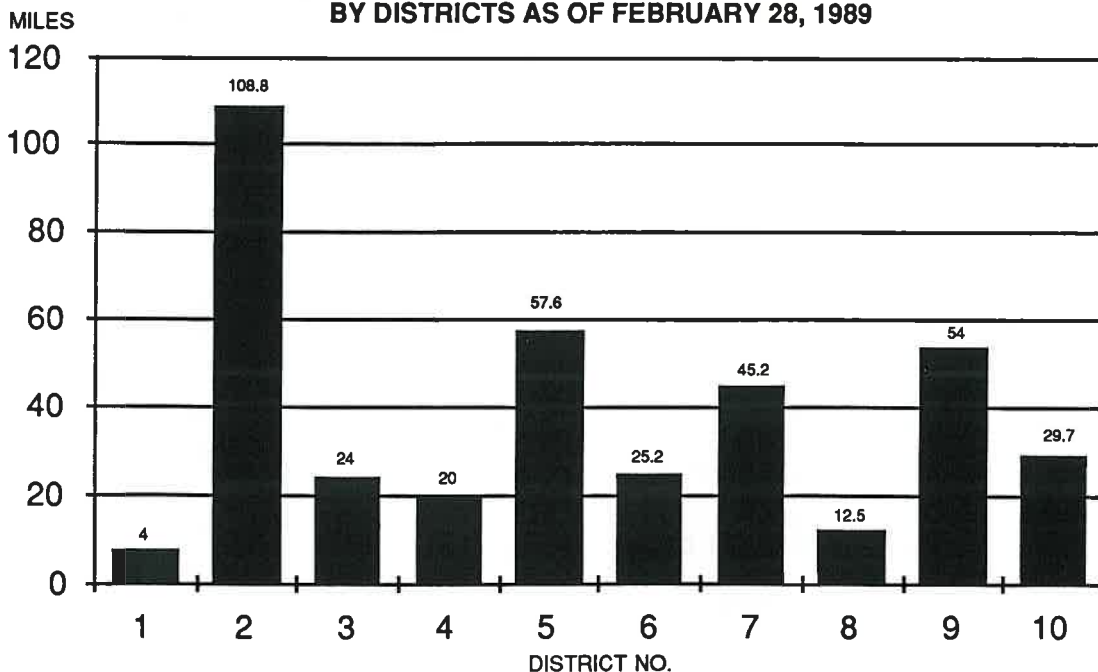
and agree to clean it 3-4 times over a one year period.

Some groups and individuals are more ambitious than others. For example, the Scenic Highway 12 East Association in northwest Arkansas has agreed to keep clean a 29-mile section of Highway 12 in Benton and Madison counties through 1992.

The groups vary in size from the very large to the very small. In Pine Bluff, the International Paper Company has agreed to hold monthly clean-ups on Highway 81 near their mill through 1993, while a retired couple in Warren, Amos and Etholene Warren, are cleaning a 2-mile section of Highway 8 in front of their home for an indefinite period of time.

With springtime upon us, the Adopt-A-Highway Program is sure to continue its steady growth. An informational brochure put out by the Department about the program states, "The object of the program is to increase the public's awareness of the monumental task of managing Arkansas' rights-of-way and to promote public involvement." Judging from the growth rate of the program to date, it is safe to say that the Adopt-A-Highway Program has been a success and should continue to grow and prosper in the future.

385 MILES OF HIGHWAY ADOPTED  
BY DISTRICTS AS OF FEBRUARY 28, 1989





# Red River Tourist Information Center Officially Opened to the Public

A cold and windy day didn't dampen the spirits of about 60 people, including Governor Bill Clinton, who turned out to officially open the State's 12th Tourist Information Center on December 8, 1988 near Ashdown.

The Red River Tourist Information Center, located on Highway 71 between Texarkana and Ashdown, is expected to greatly enhance the tourism industry in southwest Arkansas, says State Senator Wayne Dowd of Texarkana. "In a short period of time, I can't explain to you how much this means to Arkansas in tourism dollars and taxes," Dowd said referring to the new center. "And without the Governor's help and without the enduring help of the Highway Department and the Parks and Tourism Commission, we would not have this center here today."

Highway Commissioner Ron Harrod, of Prescott, introduced Highway and Transportation Department personnel who were on hand for the occasion and spoke briefly about the Com-

mission's commitment to aiding the tourism industry. He stated that in addition to the 12 tourist information centers, the Highway and Transportation Department maintains 29 rest areas and 33 roadside parks around the state. "It is a \$3 million effort annually to maintain these facilities," Harrod said. "We feel like it is an investment, not an expense."

Governor Clinton stated that the tourist attractions in the area would see an immediate increase in the number of out-of-state visitors now that the Red River Center was open. "There will be a whole lot more people doing things that they never thought they'd do when they came to Arkansas," Clinton said. He went on to state that, even though everyone realizes that tourism is big business in Arkansas, we "tend to underestimate the impact of tourism on the State's economy, and also the potential of tourism for the State's economic future."

Milton Hambrice, Inc. of Magnolia was





Governor Bill Clinton addresses the crowd attending the dedication ceremony.



Commissioner Ron Harrod explained that the Red River TIC was "...an investment."

awarded a \$248,666 contract in March 1988 to construct the building and picnic shelters. Industrial Enterprises, Inc. of Hot Springs constructed the drives and parking areas under a separate \$411,314 contract.

The Red River Tourist Information Center is owned and maintained by the Arkansas State

Highway and Transportation Department and is staffed by the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism.

All 12 tourist information centers around the state have Health Department approved rest rooms and drinking water facilities along with picnic facilities.

## Carlisle Airport Access Road Dedicated

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held Friday, January 6, 1989 to dedicate an airport access road near Carlisle in Lonoke County. Approximately 40 people were present for the occasion including State Representative Bobby Glover of Carlisle, Highway Commissioner Bill Clark and AHTD Director Maurice Smith.

The Carlisle Airport Access Road project begins at Highway 13 just north of its intersection with Interstate 40 and extends 2.16 miles east to the airport. A \$596,797.06 contract was awarded by the Highway Commission on May 11, 1988 to Tom Lindsey Contractor, Inc. of Conway.



State Rep. Bobby Glover, Highway Commissioner Bill Clark and AHTD Director Maurice Smith at the dedication ceremony.

# Spring Bank Ferry Gets "Spring Cleaning"

Spring cleaning is an annual chore that most people dread doing. The thought of cleaning behind the refrigerator, under the stove, and along *all* the baseboards (even the ones behind the beds) is enough to make most of us put it off for another year. And another... and another... and another. Wouldn't it be nice if we could just plan on doing it, say, every five years?

Well, every five years is how often the AHTD "spring cleans" and overhauls the ferries it operates in Arkansas. Of course, the job is much more involved than cleaning floors and baseboards.

The U.S. Coast Guard, which licenses the State's four ferries, requires a drydock inspection once every five years to insure that the ferries are operating properly and safely. While the ferry is drydocked, a general overhaul is performed on the tug and barge units, and both are sandblasted and repainted.



The Spring Bank Ferry is located on the Red River southeast of Texarkana near the town of Doddridge on State Highway 160.



## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

The Spring Bank Ferry is located on the Red River southeast of Texarkana near the town of Doddridge on State Highway 160. The river marks the boundary line between Miller and Lafayette counties at that location, and also separates AHTD Highway Districts 3 and 7. District 3 oversees the operation and maintenance of the Spring Bank Ferry. District 7 operates and maintains the Moro Bay Ferry on Highway 15 between El Dorado and Hermitage.

Work on the Spring Bank Ferry was scheduled to begin on February 6, but freezing rain and ice on the approaches forced a one week postponement to February 13. The ferry was back in the water and operating the second week of March.

While the ferry was drydocked, District 3 maintenance crews worked long and hard to make the ferry look and operate like new. The motor and transmission were pulled from the tug and taken to the District 3 shop in Hope where they were dismantled, cleaned and repaired. The aprons from the barge were also taken to Hope to be rewelded and to replace some of the timbers from the decking.

While all this was being done in the dry confines of the District 3 shop, much work was being performed at the river's edge to the barge and tug despite almost of week of rain. Sandblasting was used to remove all the old paint from the barge and tug units. The rain did not slow the work down because much of the work took place

either on the underside of the barge or inside the hull where the rain was not a factor. Inside the hull, crews had to drain water which had accumulated due to condensation and seepage before they could sandblast and repaint. Underneath, the rub plates had to be repaired or replaced as necessary.

As the overhaul neared completion, a Coast Guard inspector from the Marine Inspection Office in Memphis, Tennessee arrived to check the work. Among the things checked by the inspector were the navigational lights and the life saving and fire fighting equipment. The hulls of the barge and tug were also checked for cracks and proper welds.

Following the inspection of the barge and tug, the general safety procedures of the personnel operating the ferry were checked, as well as the advance warning signs advising the public about the ferry operations. After passing the inspection, the ferry was put back into the water to serve the motoring public who have come to depend on it daily.

The Spring Bank Ferry is programmed to be replaced by a bridge in the next few years, so, according to District 3 Engineer William Tyler, "hopefully this will be the last drydock we'll have to do on this ferry." Although the charm and uniqueness of the ferry will be missed, these once-every-five-year spring cleanings probably won't be.

Now, about those baseboards. . .



## Gassville Public Hearing Focuses On Replacement of Dangerous Bridge

Replacing the Lithia Creek Bridge on Highway 126 between Gassville and Monkey Run was the main topic of a public hearing held December 1, 1988 in Gassville. The hearing, which was held in the Gassville Community Building, attracted approximately 50 area residents.

The proposed project on Highway 126 actually calls for the replacement of two bridges, one over Lithia Creek and the other over Carson Creek. But it was the dangerous structure crossing Lithia Creek which brought the people out.

"I have lost family members and friends on that particular bridge and have, over the years, held my breath with the school buses," said State Representative Ed Gilbert of Mountain Home.

The existing structures on State Highway 126 are substandard, 20-foot wide concrete bridges. The project calls for widening the existing Carson Creek Bridge to 38 feet, and for constructing a new 38-foot wide bridge over Lithia Creek on new location to improve the line of sight and curvature of the road.

Others who spoke at the meeting expressed



Danny Arendt, right, of the Department's Right of Way Division, confers with a concerned Gassville resident about the project.

concerns similar to those expressed by Rep. Gilbert, especially regarding the safety of the school children. Earnie Greening, a school bus driver from Gassville, said, "If anybody will sit up there from 3:00 to 3:30 every afternoon, they will see three school buses with 60 kids each come across that bridge. Those kids are in danger every night."

He added that the trucks using the road were also a problem. "They go by the two-by-two rule - they go too fast and too far over the centerline," Greening said.

## Highway 167 Widening Topic Of El Dorado Public Hearing

The Highway and Transportation Department is proposing to widen Highway 167 between El Dorado and the Louisiana border in Union County, and the residents of the area were given a chance to express their opinions on the project at a public hearing in December. The hearing, attended by approximately 180 people, was held in the Union County Courthouse in El Dorado on December 15, 1988.

The proposed project will widen Highway 167 to four lanes from Highway 82 in El Dorado to its intersection with County Road 7 about three miles from the Louisiana line. The portion of Highway 167 from County Road 7 south to the Louisiana border will eventually be widened to four lanes also, but it was not discussed at the hearing because a location for the roadway, which will bypass Junction City, had not been

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

determined.

Union County Judge Mike Dumas spoke about the importance of the project for south Arkansas in general and Union County in particular. "The Highway Department, the State of Arkansas, the Governor, all of us - including this county - are putting our emphasis on jobs, on economic development," Dumas said. "What we need here in Union County are four lane highways, not just highways, but four lane highways that lead somewhere - to I-20, to I-30, and to I-40."

State Representative Bobby Newman of Smackover urged the residents to work with the Highway Department toward the completion of the project. "I would like to express my support for the project, and I want you people to keep an open mind on this," Newman said. He noted that the Highway Department had a good record of working with people to iron out any problems that might arise.

Area residents also expressed support for the project and voiced their concern for safety on the new highway.



El Dorado residents look at the Highway 167 project on a wall map at the public hearing.

## Faulkner and Pratt Chosen State Boss/Secretary of the Year



Bob Faulkner and Sherry Pratt

For the second year in a row Highway and Transportation Department employees were chosen by the Interdepartmental Relations Committee as the State of Arkansas' "Boss" and "Secretary" of the Year.

The 1988 recipients were Bob Faulkner and Sherry Pratt. They were presented their certificates at the annual Secretarial Seminar held in Little Rock on November 16, 1988.

Faulkner is the Assistant District Engineer for District 10 in Paragould and Pratt is the District Secretary for District 10 in Paragould.

Three finalists for each category were selected from nominations submitted from the various state agencies. From these finalists, Faulkner and Pratt were chosen for the top awards.

Chosen in 1987 were former Chief Engineer Billy Cooper and Internal Audit Secretary Shirley Wesson.

## Lydell Harris Wins 1989 Highway Map Photo Contest

Lydell Harris, a cartographer in the Mapping and Graphics Section of the Planning Division, was the winner of the 1989 State Highway Map Photo Contest.

Harris was presented an Award of Excellence certificate and a customed framed print of his winning photograph by Highway and Transportation Department Director Maurice Smith and Chief Engineer Charles Venable.

Harris' photograph, a southeasterly view of the North Terminal Interchange (Interstate 40/ Interstate 30), will appear on the cover of the new Tourist Map.



Charles Venable, Lydell Harris and Maurice Smith

Announcing 

## 1990 Highway Map Photo Contest

The State Highway Map Photo Contest is an open invitation to all Highway and Transportation Department employees and family members. The winning entry will appear on the 1990 State Highway Map. Your photograph could become a visible symbol of the pride we have in our State and in the Highway and Transportation Department. All entries must be 35mm color slide or color glossy print and you may submit any number of entries. All entries must be taken in Arkansas and in 1989. Entries should be highway oriented and submitted to the AHTD Planning Division by November 1, 1990.

# AHTD LETTERS

October 28, 1988

Arkansas Highway Dept.  
District 6 Office  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Sirs:

My husband and I were visiting your State recently. On our way back home to Arizona we stopped at a beautiful road side park/rest area out of Little Rock, the Morgan Rest Area. We were so impressed with one of the attendants there, a man named Dwayne Stokes. He was very helpful in helping us to find locations of business houses we wanted to visit in Little Rock. It is not often one is so fortunate to find a willing worker.

Just want you to know how much we appreciated his help.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. J.W. Byars  
Phoenix, Arizona

*Editor's Note: Dwayne Stokes is a nine-year employee of the Department and is Rest Area Attendant in the North Pulaski County Crew in District Six.*

November 2, 1988

Ralph Fulton  
District 9 Engineer  
Harrison, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Fulton:

We have only praise for the excellent job done on resurfacing Highway 264 East.

The work was done expediently, courteously, and thoroughly with no inconvenience to us.

The smoothness, clear markings, and wide aprons make driving a pleasure on 264 East. It is indeed a scenic road which will entice travelers to Hickory Creek Park.

We have observed 264 East potholes being filled, patched, and redone many times in one season. Thank you for using our tax money wisely.

Sincerely,  
Mr. and Mrs. Millard Anderson  
Lowell, Arkansas

October 23, 1988

Arkansas State Highway  
and Transportation Department  
Little Rock, Arkansas

RE: Rest Area at Black Rock

To Whom It May Concern:

Our trip through the Ozarks almost came to an unhappy ending when we locked our keys inside our RV. Thanks to help and assistance graciously provided by one of your people we were able to regain entry to our vehicle without causing any damage. Unfortunately, I did not get the person's name, but he appeared to be in charge of maintenance at the above named rest area.

Remuneration was offered, but was not accepted. I feel that the least we can do is to tell you of this incident and say "thanks" again for the service provided by this gentleman which enabled us to continue to enjoy our trip through the beautiful Ozarks of Arkansas.

Sincerely,  
Charles R. Johnson  
Granbury, Texas

*Editor's Note: This employee was L.M. Hicks, Rest Area Attendant at the Black Rock Rest Area in District Ten.*

November 18, 1988

Mr. Johny Cheek  
AHTD - Lonoke Maintenance Crew  
Lonoke, Arkansas

Dear Johny and Crew:

On behalf of the citizens of Lonoke I want to express our gratitude and commend you and your fine men that have worked so diligently in helping clean up and restore our city after the tornado disaster. Your immediate response, dedication and endless hours of labor are the contributing factors that has enabled our city to "dig out" from under the ruins and mass destruction left behind by the storm.

I look about the city and am amazed at the progress that has been made in restoration. One cannot imagine the unforeseen problems and decisions that arise and must be made in times like these. However, it is the dedicated efforts of fine people like you that has made this task easier.

Thanks to you, Lonoke will survive a stronger and better city. We could not have made the progress that we have without you and your men. Please convey to your men our deepest gratitude and appreciation.

Sincerely,  
Jack Wheat, Mayor  
City of Lonoke

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

December 21, 1988

Ralph Fulton  
District 9 Engineer  
Harrison, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Fulton:

I want to state my appreciation for your quick response to the need for and having installed the guard rail on State Highway 340 at Memorial Drive in Bella Vista. I also appreciated your letter dated October 10, 1988, concerning our phone conversation about this need.

I want to say "Thank You" and wish you and your family a Happy Holiday Season.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Dan Kittrell  
Bella Vista, Arkansas

December 5, 1988

Mr. Coy Campbell  
AHTD District 7 Engineer  
Camden, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Campbell:

It goes without saying that most of our public officials do not get the recognition they deserve for the many services they do. So for this, we would like to extend our sincere appreciation to you for all your support in getting Highway 129, from Lapile cutoff to the Louisiana line, rebuilt.

Without your support we could not have gotten this done. Because of your concern, we now have a highway we can be proud of. Thanks again.

Sincerely,  
Paul H. Murray, Mayor  
and City Council Members  
City of Huttig

January 17, 1989

To Whom It May Concern:

At Christmas time we were on our way to the Little Rock Airport and stopped at the Morgan Rest Area. The attendant there was so very helpful to us. His name is Dwayne Stokes and I thought the Highway Department would like to know when one of their employees goes beyond the call of duty. Thanks again.

Mrs. Weldon Smith  
Shirley, Arkansas

January 17, 1989

Mr. Ray Woodruff  
AHTD District 1 Engineer  
Wynne, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Woodruff:

We, the citizens and residents of Cotton Plant, would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the great work done by your department in improving the drainage on Main Street in Cotton Plant.

All of the people who worked on the project were most helpful, courteous, and obliging, and we want you to know how much we appreciate it.

The recent rains proved how helpful the improvements which you made were to this town.

Sincerely and gratefully,  
Letter signed by 49 residents  
of Cotton plant

December 21, 1988

Arkansas State Highway  
and Transportation Department  
P.O. Box 2261  
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Sirs:

On Tuesday, December 20, I was informed by a relative that my sister, Jennifer Gowan, has been involved in a head-on car collision somewhere in Arkansas. She was to be taken to a hospital and the extent of her injuries was unknown.

In an attempt to locate her from Dallas, I reached David Stafford by phone.

He was courteous, understanding, helpful, and most importantly, successful in locating her at a hospital in Little Rock.

Mr. Stafford is to be commended, and Arkansas should be proud of the efficiency and manner in which he conducts his business.

Sincerely,  
David R. Gowan  
Richardson, Texas

*Editor's Note: David Stafford is a Communications Operator in the Radio Section of the Construction and Maintenance Division.*



# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

November 30, 1988

Arkansas State Highway Dept.  
 Attention: Personnel  
 c/o State Capitol  
 Little Rock, Arkansas

Gentlemen:

On November 28, 1988, I was returning to Houston, Texas when I had a tire blow out on Interstate 30 about fifteen miles from Texarkana. Although traffic was heavy, no one stopped to help. So with my Owner's Manual in hand, I started unloading the trunk. I looked up to see three of your employees crossing the highway. These gentlemen, Randall Cato, Wesley Burkham, and Carl Murry, proceeded to change the tire, inflate it and direct me to the nearest service area. They were funny, courteous and so helpful. They would not accept anything for their efforts. I really do not know what I would have done without their help.

Although I tell everyone how friendly people are in Arkansas, every time I return I am impressed again by their kindness. Please extend my thanks to these gentlemen again. Their thoughtfulness will be remembered for a long time.

Sincerely,  
 Elizabeth Demetz  
 Houston, Texas

*Editor's Note: R. W. Cato, C.C. Murry and Wesley Burkham work out of the Hempstead County Crew in District Three.*

## AHTD SERVICE AWARDS

### DECEMBER 1988 30 Years

J. Wilbert Chapman ..... State Aid

### 25 Years

Gene Cagle ..... Buildings/Grounds

### 20 Years

Carmet L. Crites ..... District 8  
 Frank Duran ..... District 10  
 Euel G. Holloway ..... District 4  
 James E. Reed ..... AHP  
 Curtis J. Stokes ..... District 10  
 Marvin R. Sullivan ..... District 6

### 15 Years

James A. Cole ..... District 6  
 Christine Leavy ..... Hydraulics  
 Jimmie L. McAlister ..... District 1  
 William F. Parker ..... District 6  
 Miles D. Patton ..... Surveys  
 Roy L. Pruitt, Jr. .... District 1  
 Ronald E. Smith ..... Public Trans.  
 James W. Thomas ..... AHP

### 10 Years

Tammy F. Cagle ..... Hydraulics  
 Thomas W. Cariker ..... AHP  
 Laura DeBro-Carter ..... Programs & Contracts  
 Willie W. Dow ..... District 4  
 Faye D. Fatheree ..... District 3  
 John M. Freeman ..... District 8

Billy R. Gray ..... District 4  
 Clara M. Harris ..... AHP  
 Jason A. Harrison ..... District 2  
 James L. Hastings ..... Traffic  
 Karen J. Hightower ..... Surveys  
 Henry L. Jackson ..... Traffic  
 Billy G. McGuire ..... District 1  
 Eddie F. Shaw ..... District 3  
 Debbie S. Stueart ..... District 3  
 Tony Sullivan ..... Traffic  
 Teddy M. Widner ..... District 9  
 William R. Winkler ..... District 6  
 Bobbie J. Wise ..... District 9

### 5 Years

Ellen I. Akins ..... District 10  
 John R. Bailey ..... AHP  
 Kathy L. Ballard ..... Maintenance  
 George F. Hart IV ..... Computer Services

### JANUARY 1989

#### 30 Years

Jack Coleman ..... District 4

#### 20 Years

Luther Brown ..... AHP  
 Jimmy R. Clark ..... Planning  
 David A. Hunter ..... Human Resources  
 Bonnie L. Wesson ..... Bridge

#### 15 Years

Gary E. East ..... AHP

Patricia W. Gee ..... Materials & Research  
 Billy L. Hamilton ..... District 1  
 Tom L. Harrell ..... Planning  
 Willard R. Holt ..... Right of Way  
 Doyle M. Hughes ..... Internal Audit  
 Connie J. Jones ..... District 3  
 Eric C. Phillips ..... Planning

### 10 Years

David R. Ball ..... Bridge  
 William O. Bryant ..... Surveys  
 Audrie L. Caldwell ..... District 3  
 William H. Covington ..... District 10  
 Fred Davis ..... District 10  
 Richard J. Finkle ..... Photogrammetry  
 Charles F. Fuller ..... District 5  
 Lucian D. Lindsey ..... District 7  
 Joe Mason ..... District 7  
 Jerry D. Vail ..... District 2

### 5 Years

Michael S. Barnett ..... District 2  
 Truman G. Daugherty ..... District 5  
 Cathy E. Haley ..... Materials & Research  
 Roy D. Leach ..... District 9  
 James Moore ..... AHP  
 Ray Roberts ..... District 1  
 Dawn M. Whitlow ..... District 10  
 Charles R. Williams ..... District 7

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

### FEBRUARY 1989

#### 30 Years

Percy D. Morton ..... District 7

#### 25 Years

Charles R. Rain, Jr. .... Roadway Design

#### 20 Years

Ralph J. Blackwell ..... District 10  
 Jackie N. Cunningham ..... District 9  
 Jimmy L. Fooks ..... Right of Way  
 Bill Herrington ..... District 2  
 Donald E. Hill ..... District 8  
 Ronald P. Jones ..... District 8  
 Billy J. McMullen ..... District 9  
 Wendell Perry ..... District 3  
 Delbert H. Pierce ..... District 1  
 William M. Sanders ..... District 7  
 Dual R. Schales ..... Radio

#### 15 Years

Eltis B. Baker ..... District 9  
 Donald G. Cearley ..... District 3  
 Donald K. Davis ..... District 1  
 Stephen L. Foster ..... District 3  
 Robert D. Hausam ..... District 4

Rickie G. Hogue ..... District 2  
 Phillip L. Huett ..... District 5  
 Earl G. McMahan ..... District 7  
 James R. Patton ..... District 9  
 Larry G. Wilkins ..... District 6

#### 10 Years

Kenneth L. Booth ..... District 9  
 Melvin A. Bowen ..... District 4  
 Larkie L. Cobb, Jr. .... District 6  
 Frankie L. Gammel ..... District 2  
 Teresa I. Maze ..... District 4  
 James M. Morgan ..... District 5  
 George E. Myles ..... AHP  
 Roy L. Nelson ..... District 2  
 Ronald R. Poppleton ..... District 10  
 Carolyn A. Ray ..... AHP  
 Marvin K. Risley ..... District 4  
 Clinton A. Taylor ..... District 9  
 Bobby J. Tuggle ..... District 9

#### 5 Years

Houston Caldwell ..... District 1  
 Barry M. Clark ..... District 8  
 James Draper ..... District 3  
 Floyd A. Franklin ..... AHP

James F. Hawkins ..... District 7  
 Lonnie R. Hazel ..... District 3  
 Austin W. Hendrix, Jr. .... District 3  
 Rocky N. Holbrook ..... District 8  
 James F. Owens ..... District 3  
 Richard E. Strasburg ..... Maintenance  
 Richard M. Wheeler ..... District 3

## RETIREES

### AUGUST 1988

Billy W. Arnold ..... District 10

### OCTOBER 1988

Ralph H. Heckel ..... District 9

### NOVEMBER 1988

Johnny L. Anderson ..... District 1  
 O.Z. McGee ..... District 2

### DECEMBER 1988

Milton D. Patton ..... District 4

## AROUND THE DEPARTMENT

### BRIDGE

Wedding bells rang for Steve Lawrence and Kelli Harmon on September 3rd in Valley Springs. Steve and Kelli were childhood friends. After college they became re-acquainted in Little Rock and now they live in the vicinity of where he grew up at Fourche Dam in eastern Little Rock. We wish Kelli and Steve years of happiness. Steve is a bridge design engineer and Kelli is employed by National Medical Rentals.

Mike and Jamie Coogan have moved into their new home they had built in Marlowe Manor. A woodpecker took up residence in their attic. Being a builder himself, he pecked two holes in the roof for a better view. Mike is plotting to catch him, bundle him up, and take him into the deep woods to find a new home. Meanwhile, he has built a convenient perch for Woody. Now that's hospitable. Mike is a senior bridge design engineer and Jamie is a teacher at Mills High School.

David Plugge and his wife, Lori, have an adorable baby girl, Rae Elizabeth, born November 18th weighing 7 pounds and 8 ounces. Rae is a couple of months old now and Lori has returned to teaching third grade at Davis Elementary School in Shannon Hills. David is a senior design engineer. We are looking forward to another visit to the office by Lori and Rae.

Damon Burney and his wife, Karen, have a new son, Steven, born November 4th weighing 7 pounds and 9 ounces. Karen brought Steven to the Christmas party so that we could admire the cute little guy. We hope they return again soon. Damon is a bridge design engineer and has been with AHTD since August 1986.

Stewart Linz reports today that his wife, Rhonda, may go to the hospital any minute to deliver twins. They are preparing for two boys. Stewart and Rhonda have a daughter, Tiffany,

who is three years old. Rhonda and Tiffany came to the Christmas party to enjoy some time with Dad. Stewart is an advanced bridge design engineer.

Ken Holmes and his wife, Susan, are looking forward to a baby (girl, maybe) in May. Their son, Michael, is four now and it's time for a playmate. Ken is a structural detailer and operates the CADD drafting system.

Leslie McSwain and his wife, Joyce, are expecting in April. They have built a new home in Maumelle, with nursery, and are anxiously awaiting the new arrival. Leslie is a structural detailer and also operates the CADD system. Joyce is an elementary school counselor.

We hated to see Greg Carter, advanced bridge design engineer, resign and move to Pennsylvania. His wife, Linda, was promoted with Systematics, to Pittsburgh. Greg is happy with his new job and plans to visit family and friends here in Arkansas as often as possible.

Reid Beckel went skiing in Vail, Colorado during the Christmas holidays. He said the weather was perfect but the snow wasn't. Maybe this year Reid can vacation in Siena, Italy. His daughter, Heather, is studying art history at the university. She was in her fourth year at the University of Arizona and decided to spend a year abroad. When Heather graduates, she would like to work in a museum in Europe. Reid's son, Jeff, is working on his Masters in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Texas. Reid is an advanced structures engineer.

Our annual Christmas party was a lot of fun and brought back some of our retirees. Harry Dinsmore, retired senior design engineer, just came from the hospital where his daughter-in-law, Dawn, had a little girl. He said he was working out at the Y, losing weight, and felt like

a million bucks.

Alice Jo Dong, retired senior design engineer, just got back from a trip to Las Vegas and was ready to take another trip, to Las Vegas, Dallas, D.C., or China. She is busy doing just what she likes, traveling and visiting friends.

Jim Matthews, retired staff bridge design engineer, came to the party with Matthew and Jamie, his grandchildren. He and Mimi have had a few health problems this past year. We certainly hope this year they both have good health and happiness.

Dallas Vire, retired staff bridge design engineer, and his wife, Alice, came to the party with their daughter-in-law, Michelle, and newest grandbaby, Clara. They are remodeling their home and spending time with their children and grandchildren, and enjoying good health.

L.C. Carlson, former bridge engineer, and wife, sent their regrets at not being able to attend the party and sent their best wishes to all their friends at AHTD.

Mike White, staff structures engineer, was recently promoted to a position in the Surveys Division. We hated to see Mike leave but we look forward to him dropping in occasionally.

We are happy to have Jim Tribo in the office again. He is an advance design engineer in Gary Ashley's design squad. Jim worked in Bridge from 1975 to 1980 and in Construction until 1981. He has gotten a range of experience working with consultants these last few years. Jim and his wife, Kay, have three children: Mandy, age 12; Jenny, age 10; and Jamie, age 3. It's good to have you back Jim. You are an asset to AHTD.

L.D. Finister, structural detailing specialist, has recently won the First Degree Black Belt awarded from International PaSaRyu Associa-

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

tion in Memphis. L.D. is teaching young beginners karate and also spends nearly every day at the gym. He is keeping himself fit and making it a hobby.

Bonnie Wesson, division secretary, received her 20 year service pin from Veral Pinkerton, bridge engineer, in January. A buffet was served with homemade snacks. Mr. Pinkerton expressed his appreciation, as well as the entire office, for her work this past 18 years in the Bridge Division. It just wouldn't be the same here without her. Bonnie is past president of the Southwest Toastmasters Club. She has been a member for two years. Recently, she received the Able Toastmasters Award and the ATM Bronze Award which required 30 speeches and various leadership activities. The Southwest Toastmasters Club earned the Toastmasters International Governor's Distinguished Club Award for 1988.

### COMPUTER SERVICES

Computer Services spent the Fall season either saying goodbye or hello to our employees or congratulating our old timers.

We wish the best of luck in their new jobs to Cara Emerson, computer operator; Kyle Wilson, applications programmer, and to Rick Lowe, systems planner.

We would like to welcome our new employees: Jay Wilson, who received his BS degree at UCA, is now in our Applications Development Section. Jay and his wife, Terrill Angell who is a programmer at CCX in Conway, have five children, Michelle, 13; Heather, 11; April, 9; Tiffany, 6; an Erin, 2. Jay's hobbies include programming, science fiction and driving kids to and from cheerleading and gymnastics practice.

Kathy Brewer is also a new programmer in our Applications Development Section, who will be working on the Human Resources Division's new system.

Kathy Austin is our new COE student helping out in the front office. She has been a great help to Donna, especially during Donna's illness.

We are also happy to have Perry Comithier as our new nighttime operator. Perry's past experiences with the University Medical Center and Safeway make him a great asset to our Division.

In the congratulations department we have John Dailey, who was promoted to Computer Services Coordinator for the Systems Software Section. Barbara's glad to now officially be able to delegate work to John as her assistant.

Larry Lewers has learned alot about our fourth generation programming languages and has been promoted to Programmer I so that we can better utilize him on the new automated procurement system.

Jelyn Thomas and her family spent New Year's in Breckenridge, Colorado. She enjoyed the vacation with her family even though she only got to ski two and one-half days before spraining her ankle. Jelyn did have one picture taken while she was on skis that she wanted everyone to see. She says she is ready to go back but this time without the crutches.

Congratulations to Jim Stringer who received his 30 year service certificate. The division offered their congratulations with a cake and a gift. Pam Edwards completed 10 years of

service and George Hart has completed 5 years. We thank them for their great job they have done over the years and hope that they will be around for several more.

Kay Cornish was the proud mother of the bride when her daughter, Sherri, was married to Mike Brice on January 7 at the First United Methodist Church in Houston, Texas. Sherri and Mike are both third year optometry students at the University of Houston College of Optometry. Sherry is the daughter of Kay and Bobby Cornish, former Assistant District 2 Engineer. We wish Sherri and Mike much happiness.



Jelyn Thomas and family



Mike Shaw and Jim Stringer



Mrs. Michael Brice

### CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

Our annual Christmas party was hosted by Allan Holmes and his wife, Marla, at their new home in Maumelle on December 17 for the employees of the Construction and Maintenance Division. We all enjoyed a lovely time of food and fellowship.

A warm welcome to Joe Gardener who transferred in November to the Final Estimates Section. Joe, who has been with the department for 26 years, and his wife, Otha, reside in Lonoke.

Carolyn Burleson is a proud grandmother again with the arrival of Gregory Gene. Born on November 22, he weighed 8 pounds and is the son of Ladiele and Melanie Burleson, who live in Clarksville.

John and Sandy Howell visited her mother, Mrs. Della Harrington, in Hayward, California to attend her 88th birthday party on January 8. Belated Happy Birthday Della from all of us.

### Radio Section

We welcome Barbara Vinson who transferred from the Construction office to the Radio Section as a Telecommunications Operator in December. At the present time she is recuperating from surgery, but hopes to be here soon and continue her training.

Mollie Michelle O'Bannon is the adorable daughter of Jenny and Pat O'Bannon. She was born November 28, weighing 7 pounds and 9 ounces and, according to Mom and Dad, has been a good baby - sleeping most of the night! From conversations with Pat, he is a very proud father and has adapted quite well. Congratulations to the three of you!



Mollie O'Bannon

### EQUIPMENT AND PROCUREMENT

Sue Fuller became a grandmother for the fourth time on January 30. Matthew Ryan was born to Sue's daughter and son-in-law, Susan and Chris George of Ft. Worth, Texas. Congratulations to Sue and her family.

Chuck Drees received his 5 year service award from Al Sacco at the Central Shops' Christmas party in December. Chuck has worked those 5 years at the Central Shops and is presently a lowboy driver. Congratulations Chuck.

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS



Al Sacco and Chuck Drees

### FISCAL SERVICES

We would like to congratulate Les Perry for 30 years of service with the AHTD. We celebrated the occasion with cake, punch and other goodies. We enjoy having Les as a fellow worker and look forward to many more years.



Les Perry and Larry Dickerson

A big congratulations to Mike and Lori Eden on their new arrival, Christopher Joseph, born December 20, weighing 7 pounds and 9 ounces. A shower was given for the proud parents with Chris making a personal appearance to the enjoyment of all. He is absolutely precious.

Pictured below is Jeff Prewitt, the youngest of three sons of Charles and Judy Prewitt. Jeff enjoys playing basketball for the 7th grade Bryant Mustangs. As you can see, Jeff has trouble fighting the girls off.



Jeff Prewitt

Congratulations are in order to Fiscal Services' newest CPA, Mark Gault, who passed his test in November. He is now truly a constant pain in the lx??. Congratulations Mark, we all think a lot of you!

This handsome young man is John and Sandra Tracy's pride and joy, Brett. Brett is 3 years old and quite a handful. Sandra always has a cute story to tell to the office.



Brett Tracy

### HIGHWAY POLICE

Congratulations to Lt. James Brown who recently received the AHP's first Distinguished Service Medal. Lt. Brown serves as the AHP Division's Training Coordinator. He was honored for consistently displaying a high degree of professionalism and initiative in expanding the Division's training program. A native of Russellville, Brown is a graduate of Russellville High School and the University of the State of New York. He joined the Highway Police in 1974 and was stationed in Dardanelle until 1983 when he was promoted to Sergeant. He transferred to Little Rock in 1985 and attained the rank of Lieutenant in the Special Services Section in 1986. Lt. Brown is a 25-year employee of AHTD having worked in the Surveys Division before transferring to AHP.



Lt. James R. Brown

Chuck Lomerson, III, 15 year old son of Pfc. Chuck Lomerson, Jr. assigned to AHP Unit 273 at Conway, killed three deer at his grandfather's (J.W. Hallum) camp in Grapevine. Chuck killed a spike, a 4-pt. buck and a doe and he is anxiously awaiting next year's hunt.



Chuck Lomerson III

### HUMAN RESOURCES

On January 30, a reception was held honoring David Hunter for completing 20 years of service with the department.

David's career began in the Photogrammetry Section. He was later promoted to the Public Affairs Office as a staff photographer and in September 1987 was promoted to the Safety and Training Section as the department's video specialist.

Jane Wilson, Division Head of Human Resources, presented David with a certificate and pin and acknowledged his dedication to the department.



David Hunter and Jane Wilson

Renee Parker, daughter of James Mansfield, was recently honored with the 1988 Good Samaritan Award by the National Acoustic Neuromic Associates. Ms. Parker, a Registered Nurse, has been instrumental in developing pre- and post-operative care programs in neuroma surgery patients. Congratulations to Renee for this outstanding award.

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

The Human Resources Division would like to extend a warm welcome to our new employees Sue Luce and Isaac Lewis. Sue is the department's new switchboard operator and came to the AHTD from the Department of Finance and Administration. She and her husband, Bill, have three daughters all of whom enjoy water skiing.

Isaac Lewis is an administrative assistant in the EEO Section and his primary area of responsibility will be to assist in implementing the AHTD's On-the-Job Training Supportive Services Program. He has a BA degree from Philander Smith College and an Advance Counseling Certificate from the University of Houston. He is also a journeyman cement mason. He is married and has four children.



Isaac Lewis

## INTERNAL AUDIT

Doyle Hughes, senior internal auditor, received his 15 year service pin and certificate on February 1. The presentation was made by Bill McDorman in the presence of fellow co-workers. Congratulations Doyle for your loyal and dedicated service to the department.



Doyle Hughes and Bill McDorman

It has been confirmed from a most reliable source, (Vicki Haydon), senior external auditor of this office, that the stork will most definitely leave a bundle of joy for she and Jon sometime in August. At this point, Jon and Vicki are parents of two daughters, Chellie and Ginger who are proud and excited about the good news. Congratulations is extended to the Haydon household.

Mark Wesson, Shirley's three-year old, is really enjoying daycare these days. There is

always several pictures that he has colored so neatly that he anxiously awaits the opportunity to show Mommy when she picks him up at school. Mark is also counting from 1-20, singing his ABC's and repeating nursery rhymes. Of course you know, Mom is real proud of him.

## MATERIALS AND RESEARCH

Our Christmas party was a rousing success with lots of food, entertainment, and good fellowship. The entertainment was provided by members of M&R for their fellow employees and guests. Several awards were given to fellow employees as follows: "Stinky Award" - George Green, "Most Improved Award" - Jim Reynolds, "Handyman Award" - Jerl Burks, "Scrooge Award" - Bob Kessinger, "Angel Award" - Ellie Watson, "Genius Award" - Ray Gruver, "Knothead Award" - Mike Limbird.

Christmas songs were provided by Santa and his elves and reindeer. We wish to thank Jim Gee for his cooperation and participation in this event. We hope to have such an event next year.



Santa directs the Christmas activities



THE ELVES: (Left to right) Reggle, Laura, Donna, Carol, Karen, Paige, Brenda, Cathy

Christy and Rudy Westbrook are the proud parents of Chase Aaron, born October 22 at Baptist Medical Center weighing 8 pounds and 1 ounce. Christy says he eats more than her thoroughbred horse, Jest A Bandit.



Quite a bit of excitement has occurred in the last few months. In particular was the wedding and bachelor party of Mike Limbird. Mike married Bonnie Cotham on November 19 at Trapnall Hall in Little Rock. Mike and his bride spent their honeymoon in London, England. From the picture below you can tell they did a lot of sightseeing.



Mike during his honeymoon in London



Mike and his new bride at M&R Christmas party

James Marshall sprained his ankle while riding a three-wheeler on his way to the hospital to see his new grandchild. For more information about his grandchild please contact James personally. He'll be glad to show you his pictures and tell you all the details.

Pictured here is Bob Gossett, hi-tech asphalt scientist, proudly displaying the biggest buck he has ever killed. He usually kills does and fawns.



## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Jim Martens of the Chemistry lab got an 8 point buck during the primitive weapons season. The only thing different about his primitive weapon was, that his was a Pontiac Bonneville. This was the first buck he has bagged in Arkansas. Next year he plans to use a less expensive car.

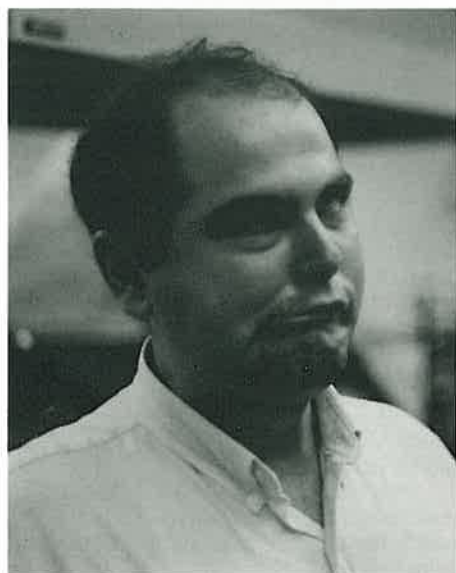
Sam McDuffie, of Jake Clement's geotechnical crew, was married on December 17. Congratulations to Sam and his bride.

David Lumbert has been moved from geologist in the Soils Section to geologist in the Research Section. We feel that he'll do a fine job for Research.

Terry Hardison received his 15 year service pin in November. Terry does a very fine job as long as he doesn't have to bend over too much.

We have a correction from our last issue. Carol Ward's name was spelled incorrectly. We apologize.

Terry "Willard" Tucker brought us a picture of his new Halloween mask he said he would wear next October. Willard said, "I think I'll wear it all the time." April Fool BBT.



Terry "Willard" Tucker

### PLANNING

October was travel time for the front office. Bryan, Betty Ruth, and Matthew Davis took a nice vacation to New England and Canada. They went whale watching off the island of Grand Manan, Canada, but didn't get to see any whales. However, they did get to enjoy the pretty fall leaves. Tom and Debbie Harrell spent a week in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Tom was in meetings most of the week, but Debbie got to enjoy some shopping and relaxation. Mike and Becky Sebren enjoyed a two week trip through the Smokey and Blue Ridge Mountains and then along the coast to Charleston. They really enjoyed the fall colors which were at their peak and gorgeous. Tina Davis took a few days off to recuperate from some "home improvements."

Statewide Planning welcomes two new employees, Ruth Edmondson, research assistant, and Debra (Reynolds) Skjerkbek, section secretary. Ruth transferred from Human Resources in November. Debbie is a former AHTD employee who has spent several years "up north" and has resettled in her natural homestate of

Arkansas. She has a 10 year old son, Jonathan Blair. We were sorry to lose Tammy Willis but would like to congratulate her on her promotion to division secretary in Surveys.

While in Washington, D.C. for the TRB Conference, Steve Mitchell was able to attend the Presidential Inauguration. This was a most memorable experience.

Dan Morgan of Technical Services became a granddad for the first time on December 16 when Taylor Elizabeth was born weighing 7 pounds and 9 ounces. The proud parents are Missy and Brooks Morgan.

Congratulations to Jimmy Clark, field technician supervisor, who was presented his 20 year pin and service certificate by Jim Head. Technical Services had a potluck on January 19 honoring "birthday people" Alicia Robinson-Farmer, Bill Ryan and Mildred Galt. A lot of good food was enjoyed by everyone.

Charles Walther of State Rail Plan became "Uncle Charlie" for the first time December 30. Robert Charles Erick Walther is the son of Bob and Judy Walther. Charles is waiting for Erick to reach "fishing age".



Robert Charles Erick Walther

This has been a busy time of the year for the Mapping Section. October was the month of two special occasions. Larry Newman received his 15 year service award and Perry Henry and his wife, Marla, became the proud parents of a baby boy. Austin Cole Henry was born October 17th weighing 7 pounds. The Mapping Section celebrated the Christmas season with a get together at Murry's Dinner Theater. Everyone who attended enjoyed the fellowship, food, and entertainment.



Charles Frazier and Larry Newman



Austin Cole Henry

Lydell Harris was the winner of the 1989 State Highway Map Photo Contest. Lydell received an award of excellence certificate and a framed 11x14 print of his winning photo. We congratulate Lydell on this accomplishment.

All of Mapping was saddened by the death of Pete Benetz on February 13. Pete was a 35-year department employee and served as a cartographer and Assistant Section Head in Mapping until his retirement in 1987. We express our sincerest sympathies to his family. He will be missed by all.

Congratulations to Ron Smith of our Public Transportation Section. He was presented his 15 year service award by Jim Gilbert.



Ron Smith and Jim Gilbert

The Reproduction Section welcomes Teresa Turman, a new employee in Map Sales. Teresa recently moved from Hot Springs to Benton. Her main hobby is swimming. Teresa's father is retired from the Air Force so she has had the opportunity to live in many interesting places.

The Planning Division decided to share in the spirit of Christmas this year by participating in Channel 4's "Letters to Santa" program. Normally, money collected from the coffee machine is used for a division-wide lunch at Christmas. This year, however, most of the money was used to purchase gifts of food, clothing, and toys for a needy family. Some people also contributed out of their own pocket. The gifts were delivered just before Christmas to the family of five. Thanks to Finance and Economics for coordinating this effort and our annual Christmas luncheon held December 16. We enjoyed seeing and visiting

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

with some of the "old timers" that came for lunch.



Sheila Neighbors and Carl Harrell with Christmas items for "Letters to Santa" program.

### PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTS

Our "Arkansas Traveler" Steve Heye was off to West Palm Beach, Florida to visit his parents over the Christmas holidays and to take in the Orange Bowl. Steve spent a lot of time at the beach and was getting sneers from the pale faces in the office. When asked about the Orange Bowl, Steve said "the halftime show was good." (Steve was born and raised in Nebraska and you know what Miami did.) We understand Steve has already planned another trip. His brother will be married this spring in Washington, D.C. and Steve is looking forward to the trip as he has not been to our Nation's Capitol in almost ten years.

Annette Stanton took a little trip to Dallas with one of her daughters and son-in-law to the Cotton Bowl and had a great time, even though we lost.

Congratulations to Mona Struble who is now a first degree Black Belt in Taekwondo. (Sorry Mona, I just had to do it!)

Congratulations to Judy Fort and Lonnie Parson who were united in marriage on January 1, and then went to Las Vegas for their honeymoon. We wish this couple many years of happiness!

Is this a picture of a proud grandma or what? Millie Houston's son, Pat, and his wife Angie, are the proud parents of this sweet little baby, Jordan Tyler, who was born November 22 weighing 8 pounds and 12+ ounces.



Grandma Millie and Jordan Tyler Houston

This very handsome young man is David Fort, son of Judy Parson. David, who will graduate from Sheridan High School in May, has been nominated to the U.S. Naval Academy. We wish David the best of luck.



David Fort

This little cutie is Matthew Bowen, two year old son of Sharon Bowen. She tells us he has been learning to roller skate at daycare. Sharon hopes he does a better job than she does!



Matthew Bowen

These two little darlings are the niece and nephew of Lezley Bearden, who works in our Programming and Scheduling Section. Lindsey Nicole Fulmer is five years old and Jordan Riley Fulmer is 20 months old. They're just so cute we had to put their picture in the magazine.



Lindsey and Jordan Fulmer

Programming and Scheduling would like to congratulate Laura Debro-Carter who received her 10 year service award in December.



Mark Bradley and Laura Debro-Carter

### RIGHT OF WAY

Our congratulations to Leonard Speed and Alaverne Williams on their marriage October 8 at the Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church in Osceola. Leonard is a drafter in our Engineering Section. He transferred to our Division from the Osceola RE Office on July 14.



Leonard and Alaverne Speed

Our sympathy to the family of Jimmy Giles who died in December. Jimmy retired from the Department in November 1987 with 29 years of service.

### ROADWAY DESIGN

Julie Seay and five of her family members flew to Houston for the weekend of November 18th to visit her sister. On the return flight they met Dick Van Dyke who was flying to Arkansas to visit his brother. They all had a wonderful time.

Charlie Rain's son, Charlie Jr., moved to Las Vegas and says he really likes it there.

Chris Rains is leaving us to go in the Navy to become a pilot. He will be receiving his training at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Florida. We wish him the best of luck.

Richard Butler killed a 5-point buck this past deer season in Fordyce. Richard and his family attended the Cotton Bowl. Richard's son-in-law, Tim Perciful, has joined the Army Reserves and is in training at Fort Dix, New Jersey and will go to Virginia for his technical training to become a helicopter pilot.

Congratulations are in order for Shirley Bridges who celebrated her 25th year with the Department. Her daughter and son-in-law came to visit for Christmas from Raleigh, North Carolina.

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

We would like to welcome our new employee to Roadway Design. They are Tony Delph who transferred from Surveys, and Glen Carter and Gina Cullum. Bob Green has also returned to work. Welcome back, Bob!

Gina loves to ride and care for horses. She fell and broke her arm right after coming to work for the department. No she did not fall off her horse!

Liz Jones received a horse for Christmas, an Appaloosa, and she is really enjoying riding.

Apparently Roadway Design has not been very nice this past year, because Santa failed to show up at our Christmas party. We all had better be good this coming year.

Charlie Clements hosted a Christmas party for his squad and their families and he also bowled a 299 in October.

Our congratulations to Marty Bevans on the birth of her fourth grandchild. Christopher Dwight Oliver was born November 7 weighing 8 pounds and 1 ounce to Steve and Wendy Oliver of West Allis, Wisconsin. Marty and her daughter Stephanie and granddaughter took a trip on Amtrak over the Thanksgiving holidays to visit her new grandson. Marty was also elected the Secretary of the International Ladies Auxiliary to the Professional Firefighters while in Miami Beach, Florida at the convention for the IAPF.

Polly Gray Major, wife of George Gray Major, recently had a poem published in the Benton Courier. Congratulations.

## SURVEYS

### Photogrammetry Section

Our "Big Game Hunter" Terry Gaither, went to the Flat Tops Wilderness Area in Colorado in October to hunt with the Sombrero Outfitters. During the week hunt, he bagged a 5x5, 615-pound elk and a 5x5 mule deer. The mule deer was a near record buck for that area. Terry was very proud of his trophies, which is understandable. He should have meat on his table for a long time to come. Congratulations Terry!



Terry Gaither's mule deer



Terry Gaither, his guide, and elk

Larry Fenton and his wife, Marilyn, took a weekend trip to Oklahoma City recently to visit their daughter, Dawn. Dawn's husband was recently transferred to Oklahoma City. Larry said he enjoyed the visit but the trip was sure long.

## TRAFFIC

The Traffic Division has had a few changes in the last six months. We would like to extend a warm welcome to Nita Springer, Mark Lyons, Timothy Hurtt and Kerry Ferguson. Nita is our division section secretary and her hobbies include reading, traveling and taking care of her son, who is 15 years old. Mark Lyons is our senior traffic engineer and enjoys motorcycle racing and cross-country enduro races. He has a lovely wife, Kathy, and a 12 year old son, Daniel. Timothy is from Mammoth Springs and is a striper helper. Kerry is from Danville and is a sign erector. Last, but not least, Bobbie Collins has returned to serve as division secretary. Louise Watts was promoted to Charles Venable's secretary. We all miss her but wish her the best in her new position.

Congratulations to Russell Adams who killed a nice 6 point buck in Ouachita County. Russell also killed a nubbin buck with his muzzle loader. Others making kills were Tony Sullivan, 8 and 3 point bucks, Bert Porterfield, 8 point and a doe, and Danny Mathis, a spike.



Russell Adams

Our congratulations to David and Dawn Tolleson, who became the proud parents of Lindsey Nicole on April 16, 1988. She weighed pounds and is their first child. Tony and Karl Jones are the proud parents of Jacqualyne Amber, born on October 30 weighing 8 pounds and 12 ounces. Jacqualyne's older sister Kristina, is three years old.

Our annual Christmas dinner was held in mid-December. There were over 100 people in attendance including Assistant Director Dan Flowers and Chief Engineer and Mrs. Charlie Venable.

John and Jackie Gorton took some much needed time off during Christmas to visit his family in Florida.

We wish to congratulate several people who received their 10 year service awards. They are Tony Sullivan, James Hastings, Henry Jackson and Ron Johnson.



Tony Sullivan and Henry Jackson



Tony Sullivan and James Hastings

## DISTRICT ONE

On December 13 at noon approximately 125 employees attended a Service Award party and Christmas dinner at the District One Headquarters. Our special guest was Highway Commissioner Rodney Slater, who presented service awards to the following employees. Fifteen year award: Ernestine Abel, Jimmy Bryant, Mazel Diggs, Jimmy McAlister, Roy Pruitt, Charles Sanders, Douglas Ragsdale, Orville Wiggins, and Billy Williams. Twenty year awards: Ronald Dunigan and Jimmy Turner. Twenty-five year awards to Ray Clark and Wayne Doss. Thirty year awards were presented to Lewis Crye and Calvin George.

Paul Clem, former Crittenden County area foreman who recently retired, was presented a watch from his fellow supervisors and the office staff.

Some of the families of our award recipients were able to join us and we are very glad they came by.

Door prizes were won by Wayne Hamilton



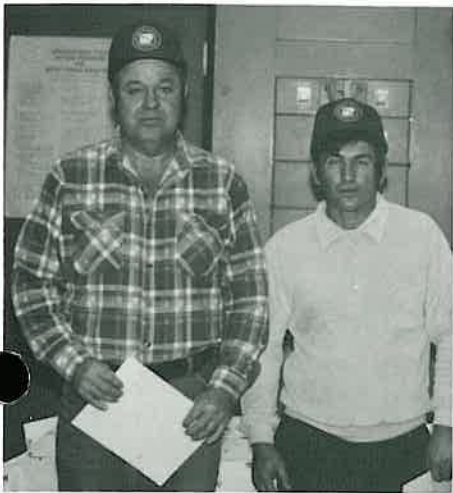
# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

and Freddie Andrews. A great Christmas dinner with all the trimmings was served in the EOC room and a good time was had by all.

A special thanks to the shop crew, the bridge crew, the sign crew and the office staff for their help in preparing for this event. It takes lots of people doing different jobs to prepare to feed that many people and we appreciate everyone who helped make this day a success.



15 year service award recipients



Dunigan and Turner - 20 Year Awards



Clark and Does - 25 Year Awards



Commissioner Rodney Slater and 30 year award recipient Calvin George



Commissioner Slater and 30 year award recipient Lewis Crye



Commissioner Slater and Retiree Paul Clem



Hamilton and Andrews with door prizes



Laura Woodruff - Waiting for the party to start!

Johnny Anderson, who retired from the Lee

County maintenance crew in October, was recognized and presented a watch from his fellow crew members.



Johnny Anderson



The kitchen crew

Brenda McFadden, wife of assistant maintenance superintendent David McFadden, visited Okinawa, Japan for three weeks in October with her son Jody and his family who are stationed there with the Air Force. She did lots of sightseeing, shopping, and learning how to spend the Japanese yen. She and grandson Joshua, are pictured on top of Suicide Cliff where many Japanese people died to keep from being taken prisoners during World War II. It is now a part of Peace Memorial Gardens, which Brenda says is really beautiful. We all really know why she went and that was to see those two grandsons, Joshua and Matthew. All these grandmothers seem to be alike.



Brenda and Joshua McFadden in Okinawa

Jimmy Smith, our equipment supervisor, is a grandfather for the fifth time with the birth of Joshua Chambers, who is pictured at the age of 6 months. Joshua lives with his parents, Roger and Denise Chambers in Cleveland, Miss. Jimmy is going to have to start keeping a list to remember their names if they keep on coming like they have in the past couple of years.

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS



Joshua Chambers

Christmas morning at Crittenden County area foreman Kevin White's house was spent with young Clint supervising his older sisters in AHTD traffic control. Clint, who is also known as "Crittenden 1/2" is shown instructing Courtney, age 7, Angel, age 9, and Keri, age 8 on the use of cones and barrels.



Courtney, Angel, Keri, and Clint White

## DISTRICT TWO

Highway Commissioner Bill Clark was the honored guest and speaker at our annual Christmas party. The group enjoyed good food from excellent cooks, good entertainment thanks to Joey Waddle and Phillip Robertson, and a visit from Santa himself thanks to Barney Herring. It was fun for all and a nice way to end the year. It's always great to get together with family and friends.



Amanda Simmons and Santa



Candy Harwood, Steve Porter, Brian Harwood and Kelly Slater at District 2 Christmas Party

Lots of baby pictures and service awards this time, both of which we are very proud of. Service awards were presented to D.W. Miles, Chicot County area foreman, Doyle Martin, Chicot County crew leader, Leslie Carrington, backhoe/front end loader operator, Clinton Bohannon, Arkansas County area foreman at DeWitt, and Richard Morgan, bridge crew for 25 years of service. Receiving 10 year awards were Jimmy Huckaby, district station attendant, and Jason Harrison, bridge crew. Don Buell, vegetation controller in the Arkansas County crew at Stuttgart received his 5 year service award.



Doyle Martin and Jim Allbritton



D.W. Miles and Jim Allbritton



Leslie Carrington and Jim Allbritton



Jimmy Huckaby



Jason Harrison



Don Buell and Scarier Lyons

We said goodbye to two retirees. They were O.Z. McGehee, Lincoln County lead person, after 27 years of service to the Department and to Bill Johns, district maintenance job superintendent.

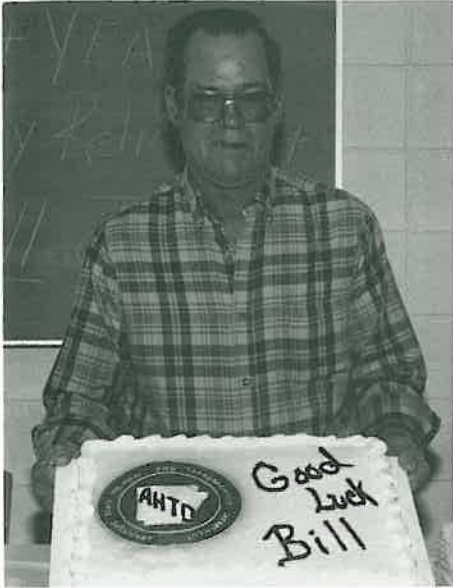


O.Z. McGehee

Bill is shown as he is honored on his retirement after 29+ years of service with AHTD. Bill was presented gifts from his fellow employees and a lot of good wishes from all. Bill was a very dedicated and hard working person and was

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Jefferson County area foreman for many of the years with the department. He will be greatly missed but never forgotten. We all wish him the best of luck for years to come.



Bill Johns

And now on to the babies! M'Leah Brooke Lindsey was born October 16, weighing 4 pounds and 13 ounces, to Bill and Becky Lindsey. Bill is a senior construction aide in the Pine Bluff RE office.



M'Leah Brooke Lindsey

Born June 4 weighing 5 pounds and 13 ounces was Brandon Tywon Vincent, son of Ray and Linda Vincent. Ray is a senior construction aide in the Monticello RE office.



Brandon Tywon Vincent

Megan Elizabeth Kames is the daughter of Chuck and Rozanne Kames and was born May 12 weighing 7 pounds and 4+ ounces. She is the granddaughter of George and Thelma Kames of Monticello. George is a retiree from the RE office in Monticello and Rozanne is an office tech in the same office.



Megan Elizabeth Kames

Sara Beth Wilson, born April 27, is the daughter of Rick and Cam Wilson of Monticello. She has an older brother, Seth, who is 6 years old. Father Rick is district bridge inspector.



Sara Beth Wilson

David and Regina Gorman are proud of their daughter, Whitney Nicole, who is 18 months old. They also have a son, Brandon, who is 4 years old. David is employed in the Monticello RE office as a construction helper.



Whitney Nicole Gorman

John Harris Mullis, son of Scott and Amber Mullis, was born October 5. He weighed 8 pounds

and 11 ounces and joins sister Kasey in the Mullis home. Scott is the assistant resident engineer for the Monticello office.



John Harris Mullis

We were all saddened by the death of Rickie Dunlap on December 18. Rickie was 24 years old and had recently received his 5 year service award. He was a resident of Drew County and a graduate of Drew Central High School and attended the U of A at Monticello. He was employed in the District Sealing crew at Monticello.



Rickie Dunlap  
8-24-64 to 12-18-88

We are proud to recognize the Arkansas County crew at Stuttgart as the winner of the Maintenance Crew of the Year for 1988. Shown accepting the award is Scarler Lyons, area foreman of the crew, from District Engineer Jim Briley.



Jim Briley and Scarler Lyons

We extend our sympathy to the family of Mrs. Leslie H. Johnson, 77, of Pine Bluff, who recently passed away. She was the retired district secretary for District 2. She is survived by her husband, Clyde W. Johnson, her son, Charles Higgins and a sister, Sunny Shalmy. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, American Business Women's Club and Business Women's Circle. She will always be remem-

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

bered by many who knew her through her years with the department. Our regards to her family and friends.

Cleo Jackson tells some "real tall" deer hunting stories, but this time we believe him because he brought us this picture. Pretty good Cleo, but we think Doyle Martin has got you beat. This 8 pointer weighed 268 pounds and Doyle says that it is his biggest ever. It takes a lot to beat that one.



Cleo Jackson



Doyle Martin



James Wolfe, Jim Briley, Joey Waddle, Max Bagwell and Jim Albritton on "Boos Day"

The CPR classes are going great and one class even got to get in on a blood pressure and diabetic screening clinic. Nurses from Jefferson Regional Medical Center visited the District Headquarters to hold the clinic and the employees thank them for their time and assistance.

Mary Baxter, our district secretary, hosted a cookout recently at her home on the river. The group enjoyed fishing and boating during the day and lots and lots of great food.



Jefferson County Maintenance Crew  
District Maintenance Crew



Christmas party at Monticello

## DISTRICT THREE

Congratulations to the following employees who have recently received service awards: K.W. Fore, Faye Fatheree, Debbie Stueart, Audrie Caldwell and E.F. Shaw, 10 years; Connie Jones, 15 years; Leroy Zachry, Thomas Smith, and J.R. Whitehurst, 25 years; and Leroy Ray, 30 years.

An Open House was held at the District Headquarters Shop on December 21 and several employees received their awards at that time from Highway Commissioner Ron Harrod. A great deal of preparation went into the event by district employees, but it was well worth the effort as everyone seemed to have a good time.



Leroy Ray and Commissioner Harrod



Thomas Smith and Commissioner Harrod



J.R. Whitehurst and Commissioner Harrod



Leroy Zachry and Commissioner Harrod



Wayne Dull and Commissioner Harrod



Frankie Shaw and DE William Tyler



Sonny Williams and Curtis Hill

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS



J.R. Whitehurst and Debbie Stewart

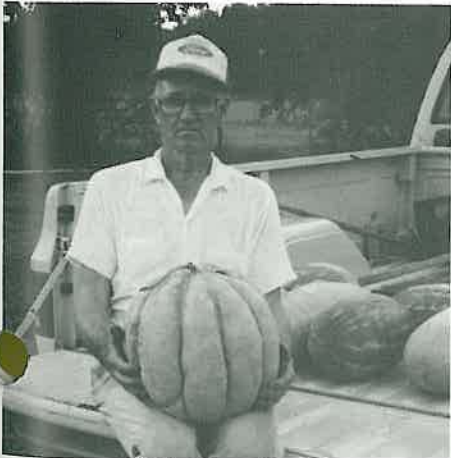


J.R. Whitehurst and Faye Fathree



Kenny Fore and J.R. Whitehurst

It's usually interesting visiting with out retirees when they come in for their monthly meetings at the district. Mr. George Reed, retiree from Little River County, brought an enormous turnip he had grown - it weighed more than 7 pounds. He also brought this photo of himself and a giant cantaloupe which weighed in at 28 pounds. Sounds like retirement and gardening make such a nice match!



Retiree George Reed

Some proud mamas and papas of District Three want you to see their beautiful children.

Steven Cody Jackson, age 1, is the son of Steve and Debra Jackson. Steve is a multi-axle truck driver in the Sealing crew.

Also pictured are Cody Lee and Brody Shane St. Clair, sons of Nick St. Clair, senior mechanic in the district shop.



Steven Cody Jackson



Cody Lee and Brody Shane St. Clair

This attractive young lady is Melissa Leanne Myers, daughter of Loyd and Larry Myers. Larry is an inspector at the Texarkana resident engineer's office. Melissa has been a junior varsity cheerleader and is now a varsity cheerleader.

She has also been a gymnast for the last six years and attended the State Gymnastic Meet in Blytheville last year. Melissa is also a member of Teenage Republicans, FBLA, and NIKE clubs, and maintains straight A's.

Congratulations to Melissa on being selected as Homecoming Maid of Honor at Arkansas Senior High School and we wish her well in her coming years.

## DISTRICT FOUR

On Friday, December 16, District 4 held their Annual Awards Ceremony/Christmas party. There was a good attendance and the decorations and tables looked beautiful.

Commissioner Chairman Bobby Hopper was on hand to give out service awards and District Engineer Carl Sanders presented Mr. Hopper with a plaque from District 4 for his time on the Commission.



Commissioner Chairman Bobby Hopper and District 4 Engineer Carl Sanders

Mr. Hopper presented M.D. Patton with his retirement certificate. Pat retired in November after 20 year of service as a senior mechanic



Retiree M.D. Patton and Commissioner Hopper at Christmas Party



Pat and Theo Patton at retirement party In November

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Service awards for District 4 include Hester Brown, station attendant Supv., Don Creech, assistant resident engineer and Joe Downs, crew leader at Mena, 25 years.

A special cake was baked in the shape of District 4 by Donna Carr, wife of John Carr, finish carpenter. A special thanks to she and John.



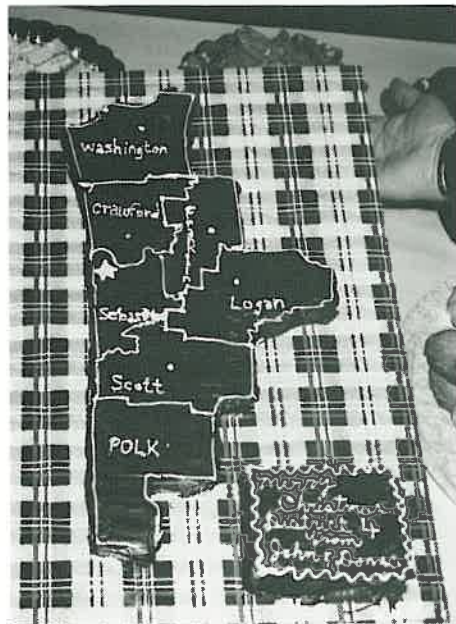
Hester Brown and Commissioner Hopper



Don Creech and Commissioner Hopper



Joe Downs and Commissioner Hopper



District 4 Cake

Other awards this quarter include L.G. "Buddy" Turner, district bridge inspector, 15 years; Don Thomas, inspector, RE Office #43, 10 years; and Gene Edgmon, construction aide, RE office #44, 5 years. Congratulations!



Buddy Turner and Joe Shipman



Leon Brewer and Don Thomas



Gene Edgmon

We have several new babies around the district. Kendra Nicole Nichols is the daughter of Dean and Debbie Nichols. Dean is also the new resident engineer at Waldron. Dean has two other daughters, Candy and Ashley. Congratulations to Dean on the birth of his new daughter and also on his new job.



Kendra Nicole Nichols

Clint and Debra Lunsford are the proud parents of Erica Michelle, born September 15. Clint is a construction helper in the Waldron office.



Erica Michelle Lunsford

Jim Shields, watchman at the district complex is the proud new grandpa of Jimmie Lee Jarrels, born September 20 to daughter Connie and son-in-law John Jarrels.



Jimmie Lee Jarrels and Grandpa Jim Shields

Robert Charles Burton Byers is the 4-month old son of Margret and Linden Byers. Margret is a rough carpenter on the District Bridge crew. Robert already has two teeth and really keeps his parents on their toes.



Robert Charles Burton Byers

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Bobby Stone, son of David and Rita Stone, won "Prince" of grades K-4 at the Annual Fall Festival at Hatfield Public Schools. Bobby is in the second grade. Rita is a single axle truck driver/mower operator at Mena.



Prince Bobby Stone

Sam Kizer, assistant resident engineer at Alma, is pictured here giving Jay Collins some valuable advice. Jay is a recent Civil Engineering graduate from Louisiana Tech. He has been with us in Alma since May. Sam recently transferred here from the Clarksville RE office. We are proud of these two new employees and we believe that Jay will overcome being so camera shy with all the tutoring that Sam is giving him.



Jay Collins and Sam Kizer

Pictured below is the group from the Alma RE office at their Christmas party. Looks like they all had a good time.



Alma RE Crew

Ron Melton, Kevin Petray, and Mike Williams of the Alma RE office recently went on a fishing safari. Each one caught their limit of crappie (so they said). They are pictured with some of their haul.



There were some good results from the November deer season from all around the district. Pictured with Buddy Turner's buck is his son Dusty. When asked where he got the buck, all Buddy would say was he shot it while it was eating acorns under an oak tree in the woods. Now just where is that?

Jim Barker, inspector, got a 9 point and Lyndell Lyda, senior inspector, got the beauty pictured below. They are both from the Waldron RE office.

Troy Harris, multi axle truck driver, killed a 6 point and a doe, Dean Terrell, vegetation controller, killed a 7 point, and Roger Simpson, distributor/roller operator, killed a 6 point. Roger also killed a 20 pound turkey with a 9-inch beard. They are all from the Mena maintenance headquarters.



L.G. Turner's son, Dusty, and deer



Jim Barker



Lyndell Lyda

Constructing highways takes a little horse sense. But then, there are some people who get a little extra help in that area as Jim Goff, senior inspector, can attest to.



"Locke good to me Jim"

### DISTRICT FIVE

As another deer season rolled around, bets were made and rifles were loaded, but what happened to all the deer? In our district only three pictures were brought to this reporter. Hershel Ray Smith, of the Stone County crew, proudly shows the two deer he and his son, Leland, tagged. Hershel's was an 8 point and weighed 168 pounds dressed. Leland's was a 10 point and weighed a whopping 238 pounds.



Hershel Ray Smith

Another successful hunter was Roy D. Pitts, crew leader in Stone County. He bagged a 9 point buck on the opening day of deer season. This one weighed 125 pounds.



Roy D. Pitts

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Ronnie Martin, construction instrumentman for the Leggett residency, got his 8 pointer during the first week of gun season.



Ronnie Martin

It was again our privilege to have Highway Commissioner Raymond Pritchett to present awards at our annual Awards Presentation and Christmas party on December 9.

We had two employees to receive 30 year service awards. They were: James K. Mathis and Siegle L. Swink. Kenneth is a senior inspector and Leroy is the resident engineer from the Searcy residency.

Four employees receiving 25 year awards were William E. Coles, Ronald F. Hedges, Lecel B. Montgomery and Jimmy T. Sexton.

We have one retiree, Granvie J. Collins, who had 26 years of service with the Highway and Transportation Department.



Commissioner Pritchett and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Mathis



Commissioner Pritchett and Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Swink



Commissioner Pritchett, Ron Hedges, wife and son



Commissioner Pritchett and Lecel Montgomery

In a beautiful candlelight evening service at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Batesville, Karen Lynn Chaney became the bride of Richard Steven Ryan on December 17. The church was decorated in white silk flowers consisting of roses, daisies, stephanotis, baby's breath, carnations and lemon leaves and with 19th century brass candlesticks in graduated sizes. A reception was held in the parish hall. Hors d'oeuvres were served before the dinner and dance. Karen is the daughter of District Engineer and Mrs. Jim Chaney. After a wedding trip the Ryans will live in Conway, where they attend college.



Steve and Karen (Chaney) Ryan

We were all saddened by the untimely deaths of Erma Collins' son and also Bobby Pearson's son. These two young men died following separate vehicle accidents. Erma is lead

person in the Searcy crew and Bobby is a construction helper in the Swink residency.

We have eight real cuties to present candid action this time around. Matthew and Andrew are the sons of Ronnie Martin. Matthew arrived November 11 weighing 8 pounds and 4 ounces and Andrew is 4 years old.



Matthew and Andrew Martin

Brandon and Bryce were born December 17 to Mr. and Mrs. Mike West and are the twin grandsons of Gary West, senior inspector in the Rice residency.



Brandon and Bryce West

Dressed for the arrival of Santa are Tad, age 2, and Mary Beth, 3 weeks, son and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tim Dunlap. Tim is construction field engineer in the Leggett residency.



Tad and Mary Beth Dunlap



# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Recent arrival to the family of Mr. and Mrs. David Boutwell is Teighlor Denise, shown here with her sister Megan. David is district bridge inspector helper. Also beaming with pride over these two is our retired sealing crew superintendent and Mrs. Fred Boutwell who are the grandparents of these two lovely young ladies.



Megan Rhea and Teighlor Denise Boutwell

Chester King, Stone County area foreman, caught this Schnook salmon in the Lewis River on his vacation in Washington. Say, ...this isn't one of those trick postcards, is it?



Chester King

## DISTRICT SIX

On December 16, service awards were presented at our annual Christmas dinner at District Six. Those receiving awards were: Paul Griffith, 30 years; James Welcher, Felix Hall and Lamar Coyle, 25 years. Presenting awards were Highway Commissioner Bill Clark, Director Maurice Smith, and District Engineer Ralph Hall.



There is a proud Grandpa in Malvern! Jim "Yankee" Cole is very proud of the beautiful granddaughter, Krystal Renee Burks, he received on December 16. She weighed 9 pounds and 1 ounce and the daughter of Eugene and Jamie Burks also of Malvern. Grandpa Jim is vegetation controller for the Malvern headquarters.



Krystal Renee Burks

These two look like they're already thinking mischievous thoughts. What will Grandpa Paul Griffith do when they are old enough to put them into action?! The one on the left is Haley Morgan Griffith and the one on the right is Hunter Michael Griffith born November 3 weighing 6.7 and 5.12 pounds respectively. The proud grandpa is Grant County area foreman Paul Griffith. Congratulations Paul!



Haley Morgan and Hunter Michael Griffith

Miss Piggy is running around with cowboys these days. Bob Morris, the cowboy, is shown here with his wife, Opal, who won first place for best costume in a Halloween contest where she works at the Bank of Malvern. Bob works at the Malvern maintenance office. Wait 'til Kermit finds out about this!



Bob and Opal Morris

We are all saddened by the death of Dennis Solee, a veteran highway employee with the Lonoke County maintenance crew, who was killed January 4 in an automobile accident. We will sure miss his cheerfulness and dedicated service.

We had lots of successful deerhunters in District Six this season. Steve Powers, of the Grant County office, displays this 10 point deer he killed on opening morning in Grant County. Ray Baker, at right, congratulates Steve. Ray is the area headquarters attendant at Sheridan.



Steve Powers and Ray Baker

James Smith, and his sidekick, killed this 8 point deer on opening day at the Brush Creek Hunting Club in Leola. Both are pleased in sharing the victory. James works in the Grant County office.



James Smith

Teddy Walton and his grandson, Dusty, make great hunting partners and they proved it by bagging this deer at the Brush Creek Hunting Club where Teddy is a member. Teddy lives in Leola and works out of the Grant County maintenance office.



Teddy Walton and Dusty

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Olen Gunter brought down this 8 pointer on November 7 using a 30-30 at the Providence Hunting Club in Grant County. Gunter works out of the North Little Rock maintenance office as a lead person. Congratulations to all of our fine hunters.



Olen Gunter

### DISTRICT SEVEN

Congratulations to Nikki Benson, 8 year old daughter of Steve and Danita Benson of Hampton, who was crowned Little Miss Southern Arkansas University Tech on December 5. The pageant was held in the Cleveland Avenue Auditorim at Camden. Nikki is the granddaughter of Larry Hollis, district maintenance superintendent.



Nikki Benson

Jessie Millican reports that he sunk a "hole-in-one" on July 29 while golfing at the Leon's Club golf course in El Dorado. He aced the 170-yard, par-3 hole with a 5-iron. Folks, be brought a news article that stated the names of three witnesses to substantiate this event. Way to go Jess!

Maggie Johnson, station attendant for Bradley County headquarters, will be showing two American Saddlebred fillies at the Arkansas State Fair in Little Rock this fall. Esau Queen was

nominated to show in the Weanling Division and shown here with Maggie is Ruler's Golden Nuggett, to show in the Yearling Division.



Maggie Johnson and Ruler's Golden Nuggett

Congratulations to Viki Wayne, who was chosen the 1988 Homecoming Queen of Warren High School. She is the niece of Darla Wayne of the Bradley County crew.



Viki Wayne

Don Fain, stock clerk, is the "first-time" grandfather of Cheryl Leann Harrison who was born November 25 weighing 8 pounds. Congratulations Don!



Cheryl Leann Harrison

Bradley County has three beautiful new babies. Allen Hearnberger, crew leader, and wife, Patricia, have a new baby girl, Amber Renee, born August 16. Amber weighed 7 pounds and 5+ ounces and is shown with her proud older brother, Keith.

Johnnie P. Risher, Jr., motor patrol operator-finish, and his wife, Angie, are the proud parents of Ashley Nicole who was born Septem-

ber 17 weighing 7 pounds and 4+ ounces.

Vegetation controller, Mickey Hargis and his wife, Daphne, are the proud parents of Jodi Michele, who was born November 25 and weighed 8 pounds and 3 ounces.

Congratulations and many best wishes to all of our new parents!



Jodi Michele Hargis

### DISTRICT EIGHT

The District 8 Christmas Open House was held on December 9. We enjoyed visiting with our many guests and the ladies prepared lots of goodies for all to enjoy.

Highway Commissioner Raymond Pritchett presented the following 25-year service awards to James J. Blalock, Thomas C. Daily, Jr., Samuel E. Kizer, and J.L. Martin, Jr.

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS



James Blalock and Commissioner Pritchett



Thomas Dally and Commissioner Pritchett



Sam Kizer and Commissioner Pritchett



Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Martin, daughter Meredith and Commissioner Pritchett



District 8 ladies ready for Santa!



Netha and Loren Brown at Open House



Bonnie and Earl Page at Open House



Huby and Bill McAllister at Open House

The following received their service awards at a recent supervisor's meeting: Billy Pruitt, 10 years, Mike Norton and Rayburn Gipson, 15 years.



Billy Pruitt, Mike Norton, and Rayburn Gipson

Dennis Langston recently received his 5 year service award. The Perry County crew helped him celebrate with this cake.



Dennis Langston

Congratulations to crews who received their Certificates of Safety. Supervisors receiving awards for their crews were James McFerran, district shop; Tom McGuire, district bridge crew; Francis Jones, sign crew; and Ed Parker, Perry County crew.



Lawrence Fletcher and Francis Jones



Lawrence Fletcher and Ed Parker



Lawrence Fletcher and Tom McGuire

# ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS



Lawrence Fletcher and James McFerran

Congratulations to Steve and Matt Young for their accomplishments at the 1988 Arkansas State Fair and Livestock Show. They are the sons of Assistant District Engineer M.C. Young. Steve, 16, is a junior at Russellville High School. He is shown here with Star Y London Belle, champion, and Star Y Victoria, reserve champion in the junior Angus female category. Matt, who attends Gardner Junior High School, is shown here with Star Y Hercules, who was the reserve champion bull in the junior Angus show.



Steve Young



Matt Young

District 8 is proud to welcome two new children to our district family.

We welcome Waylon Bramlett who is 7 weeks old in the picture shown. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Bramlett. Russell is a finish motor patrol operator in our Van Buren County crew.

Also shown is Rebekah Lee Fletcher, who was born January 11 and weighed 6 pounds and 15 ounces. Rebekah's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Larry Fletcher of Little Rock, and her proud grandpa is our District Engineer Lawrence Fletcher.



Waylon Bramlett



Rebekah Lee Fletcher

## DISTRICT NINE

On December 9, District 9 Headquarters was the setting for the annual Christmas Open House. Retirees Bennie Edwards, Luther Silvius and Carl McCutcheon were presented Ambassador of Good Will Certificates. Jack Stevenson, who retired from the Bentonville RE office, was unable to attend. We wish them all the best! Twenty-five year service awards were presented to Max Shrable and Billy D. Hensley from the Baxter County area headquarters and Wayne Bell from the Carroll County maintenance crew. Congratulations to you all!



District 9 Service Awards Recipients and Retirees

Commission Chairman Bobby Hopper and his wife, Lois, attended our Open House, and Mr. Hopper was presented a plaque in appreciation for his service on the Arkansas Highway Commission.

We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Hopper on his reappointment to the Highway Commission.



Commissioner Hopper and Ralph Fulton

District 9 employees and their families gathered at the National Guard Armory on Saturday, December 17th for a special Christmas feast and get-together. Approximately 150 people attended, kids "of all ages" got to sit on Santa's knee and lots of good food was enjoyed by all.



## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

Our condolences are extended to Gerald Shrage, assistant district engineer, on the death of his father, Calvin Teague.

In October, Jack Pharis, crew leader, Greg Howerton, backhoe operator, and Bobby Clark, single axle truck driver, of the Carroll County maintenance crew, went to Colorado in pursuit of elk. Jack was the lucky dude. He bagged a real nice 4x5 elk. Greg and Bobby are pictured alongside Jack's and Jerry Youngblood's trophies. They all enjoyed their trip so much that they have already laid plans for next year.



Jack Pharis



Greg Howerton and Bobby Clark

John Harris, J.A. Walker, Donnie Walker, Danny Shrable, Carroll Johnson and their wives enjoyed a Christmas/New Year's dinner at the Bonanza Steak House in Mountain Home on Friday, December 30. Good fellowship was shared and appreciated by those who attended.

We have several pictures from Peel Ferry employees to share with you. Mr. and Mrs. Danny Shrable are proud of their handsome son, Steven, who will finish high school at Viola this spring. Danny is pilot-deck hand at Peel

Donnie and Sharon Walker have two lovely daughters, Melisa, who is a senior at Viola High School and Melody, who is a 7th grader at Liola Junior High. Don is ferry boat pilot.

Last, but not least, ferry supervisor John Harris and his wife are extremely proud of their daughter, Nancy Jean, who is a senior at Yellville-Summit High School. Great looking bunch.



Steve Shrable



Melisa Walker



Melody Walker



Nancy Jean Harris

On October 31, District 9 lost a good friend and fellow co-worker. Mike Wolters, engineer from the Bentonville RE office, was killed in an automobile accident. He will be missed by all who knew and worked with him.



Mike A. Wolters

IN MEMORY OF MIKE A. WOLTERS  
DISTRICT 9 - HARRISON

### THE BRIDGE BUILDER

*An old man going a lone highway  
Came at evening cold and gray,  
To a chasm vast and deep and wide,  
Through which was flowing an angry tide.  
The old man crossed in the twilight dim,  
The sullen stream held no fear to him.  
And when safe on the other side,  
Turned to build a bridge, to span the tide.*

*Old man, said a fellow pilgrim near,  
You're wasting strength building here.  
Your journey will end with the ending day  
Never again will you pass this way.  
You've crossed the chasm deep and wide,  
Why build you a bridge now at eventide?*

*The builder lifted his old gray head.  
Good friend, along the path I've come, he said;  
There followed after me today,  
A youth, whose feet must pass this way.  
The chasm which was nought to me  
To that fair haired youth may a pitfall be.  
He too must cross in the twilight dim,  
Good friend, I build this bridge for him.*

## ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

For all of those in District 9 who think office manager Debbie Meyer eats like a bird - look what she does when she is at home at Momma's house! Sorry Debo I just couldn't resist! Love Bull!



Debbie Meyer

### DISTRICT TEN

Two employees of District Ten were honored recently at the Executive Secretaries Seminar with awards from Governor Bill Clinton. Assistant District Engineer Bob Faulkner received "Boss of the Year" and Sherry Pratt, district secretary, received "Secretary of the Year". Three finalists were selected from nominations submitted from the various state agencies and from the finalists, awards were presented. We are all very proud of Mr. Faulkner. For any of you who have had the pleasure of knowing Bob, I'm sure you will agree, the award could not have been presented to a more deserving individual. Congratulations Bob!

As for receiving the Secretary of the Year award, this writer feels that for a "poor ole girl" who hails from a Mississippi County cotton patch, receiving this award was one of the proudest moments of my life. Proud, not only of being the recipient of such an honorable award, but of being associated with some of the most caring and helpful people in our great state. State employees are among the most dedicated and hard working of any organization and I am very honored to be a part of that. There are not enough words to express my gratitude and appreciation, therefore, I extend a very humble "thank you" to my two bosses, Joe Barnett and Bob Faulkner, the Interdepartmental Relations Committee, and all those responsible.



Bob Faulkner and Sherry Pratt

They say when your children are small, they tug at your apron strings, and when they are grown, they tug at your heart strings. Well, it's easy to see that these beautiful children are already tugging at hearts.

Jennica Leath is the daughter of our office manager Steve Leath and his wife, Vera. Christmas was a whole new experience for the Leath family since Jennica joined the family, and next Christmas will be even more exciting since Jennica is getting a new brother or sister in August. Congratulations Steve and Vera on a beautiful little girl and on the upcoming addition.



Jennica Leath

Babe resurrected?! Well, not exactly. This adorable pose was struck by Derek, 2 year old grandson of retiree Bob Glover. Derek's father, Stan, is employed by AHTD and they reside in Searcy. (Bob, they say you pay for your raisin', and from all indications, Stan is fixing to pay for his!)



Derek Glover

This beautiful child is Amber Nicole Bobo, born January 16 weighing 7 pounds and 9 ounces. Amber is the granddaughter of Jay and Betty Johnson. Jay worked in the Greene County crew. Congratulations to the new parents, Sherry and Byron Bobo and grandparents!



Amber Nicole Bobo

### Lordy, Lordy, Joe's forty!

It's not so rare that he survived forty years, but it was a feat that he survived antics which were in store for him on that dismal day. Family and friends alike were all eager to contribute to the misery he suffered at reaching this milestone. Everyone from his wife, daughter, son, sister, mother, (even the local radio station) took pure delight in "rubbing it in". Undoubtedly the nicest thing that happened to him all day was the surprise cake presented by Commissioner Rodney Slater. It was all down hill from that point. Joe says that fortunately going through an ordeal such as this will inevitably make a stronger person of you and that we all reap what we sow. He's stronger now so when the time comes he will have the experience to help a few acquaintances reap what they sowed on December 16th!



Commissioner Slater and Joe Barnett on his big 4-0!

"Tis the Season" for parties and the Mississippi II maintenance crew knows how to do that! They all relaxed and enjoyed the merriment of their Christmas party.



Mississippi II Maintenance Crew

Retiree Guy Spears may have forgotten a few things about the Department since he retired, but one thing he'll always remember is all the good food and warm friendships enjoyed at the Osceola RE office Christmas party.



Oceola RE Office employees

Waiting on the festivities to begin! Mr. Calvin Peevy, Assistant Chief Engineer of Operations, thought he had found a quiet corner for a short break before the start of our Christmas Party. But the ever watchful eye of the notorious "District 10 photographer" (who is really Charlie Hesselbein) never misses a good shot!



Calvin Peevy

We were honored to have Mr. Peevy, Harold Beaver of the Construction office and Highway Commissioner Rodney Slater join us for the occasion. The pleasure of having good friends and good food combined with the Christmas spirit is always enriching in our life.

Service awards were presented to employees by Commissioner Slater. They were: Billy Arnold, Lefty White, Jimmy Lashley, Dick Hays and L.S. Wycoff, 25 years and to Aaron Pannell and Leonard Nelson, 30 years. Congratulations to all.

Service awards for 20 years of service were presented to Curtis Stokes, Craighead County area foreman; Frank Duran, Mississippi II maintenance crew; and Jessie Dial, district maintenance crew. Congratulations!



"Good friends"



Service Award Recipients Arnold, White, Pannell, Lashley, Hays, Nelson, and Wycoff

## CENTRAL OFFICE SERVICE AWARDS



### 25 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Row 1: Carl Stripe, Jimmy Sadler, Sue Fuller, Shirley Bridges and Sue Walls.

Row 2: Gerald Hollingsworth, Gene Cagle, Marvin Cazer, Barney Phillips, and Jim Gee.



### 30 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Jim Francis, Wilbert Chapman, Les Perry, Jake Clements and Jim Stringer



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