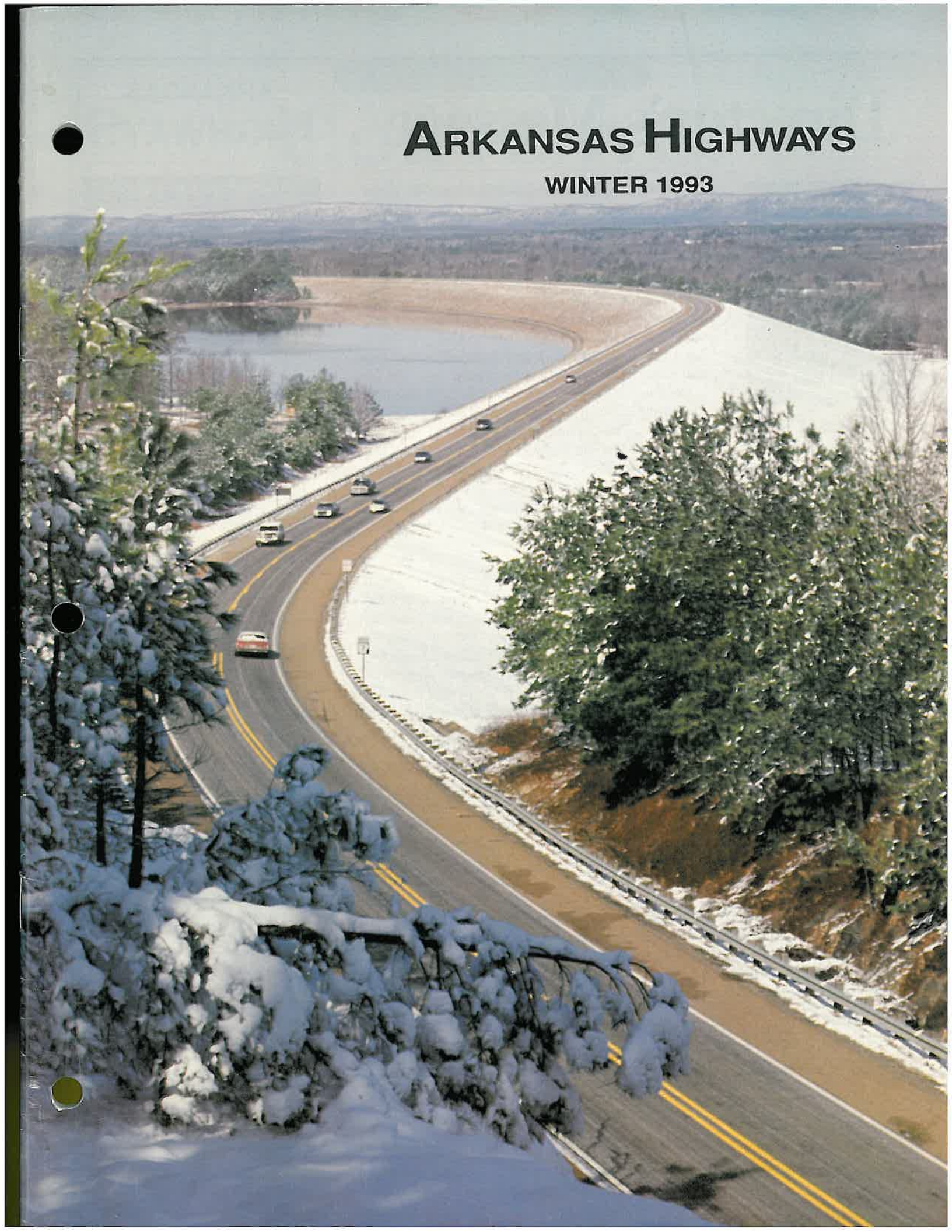


ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

WINTER 1993



Director's Message



For the past six years, it has been my distinct honor to work with the best group of public servants anywhere. I have been amazed at what this Department has been able to accomplish, and the credit goes to each and every one of you who have dedicated yourselves to giving the people of Arkansas the best highway system possible.

I first came to know and appreciate the employees of this Department during my term on the Highway Commission from 1965 to 1975. When I became Director in 1988, there was no doubt in my mind that this was the finest transportation agency in the nation.

Looking back over the past six years there are many accomplishments that come to mind. I am most proud of the 1991 Highway Improvement Program. The passage of the program by the State Legislature set the course for a brighter future for our highway system. However, that doesn't mean we can sit back and relax.

A lot has happened in the last three years to cause some concern. The level of Federal funding has not kept up with earlier projections, and we have witnessed a leveling off of State funds due primarily to more fuel efficient vehicles on the road. The Highway Commission is watching these developments closely and I am confident a way will be found to keep the program on track.

The Highway Commission recognizes the importance of a well trained, dedicated workforce. With this in mind, we started the Career Enhancement Program in 1990 to assist employees with choosing career paths and finding avenues of upward mobility within the Department. This has been a very successful program. It was initially targeted to minority and female employees and subsequently offered to all employees with less than five years of service. Since its beginning, 32 career enhancement programs have been held, involving 1,777 employees.

The Career Development Program was created in 1989 to promote awareness among junior high school students of careers available in the highway and transportation industry. Over 1,600 presentations to nearly 35,000 students statewide have been made.

The efficiency of this Department has not gone unnoticed. Two recent studies by the University of North Carolina at Charlotte ranked our Department among the top five in the country. Our administrative costs have consistently been among the lowest in the nation. All of this happened during a time when our responsibilities were continuing to grow. There were times when I wondered if we would be able to meet the challenges. I should not have worried. Many times we have had to make some tough decisions and the best interest of the taxpayers of Arkansas has always been the first priority in making each decision.

Most of my life has been spent as a farmer and a banker. However, I can truly say that no job has been as satisfying as the one I have held the past six years as the Director of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. I have enjoyed every minute of it and I wish the best for you and your families in the years ahead as you continue to serve the people of Arkansas and the nation.

DIRECTOR OF HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

DAN FLOWERS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR • CHARLES VENABLE, CHIEF ENGINEER

ARKANSAS HIGHWAYS

WINTER 1993

ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION



L.W. "BILL" CLARK
CHAIRMAN



BOBBY HOPPER
VICE CHAIRMAN



HERBY BRANSCUM, JR.
MEMBER



JOHN "M" LIPTON
MEMBER



J.W. "BUDDY" BENAFIELD
MEMBER

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EDITOR
Bill Stanton

COMPOSITION & LAYOUT
Carolyn Johnson

WRITER
Randy Ort

PHOTOGRAPHER
John Jackson



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COVER PHOTO: *State Highway 7 at Lake DeGray in Clark County.*
Photograph by John Jackson

Smith Announces Retirement As AHTD Director

Dan Flowers Named As Replacement

Maurice Smith, 72, Director of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department since January 1988, has announced that he will retire from the Department effective December 31, 1993. Dan Flowers, 46, Assistant Director, was named by the Arkansas State Highway Commission to replace Smith upon his retirement.

Smith told members of the Arkansas State Highway Commission that he was proud of the accomplishments of the Department over the past six years and was looking forward to retirement. Smith, a native of Birdeye (Cross County), was named Director of Highways and Transportation by the Arkansas State Highway Commission December 10, 1987. He took office January 4, 1988, succeeding Henry Gray, who had been Director since 1973.

He is a 1942 graduate of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a degree in Science and Agriculture and served in the United States Army from 1943 to 1946. Smith, a farmer, served on the Highway Commission from 1965 to 1975 and was Chairman of the Commission during the last two years of his term.

He is President of the Arkansas State Fair and Livestock Show; President of the Saint Francis Levee District Board of Directors; a member of the Lower Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association Execu-

on Economic Expansion and Development of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO).

He is a former member of the University of Arkansas Board of Trustees and is the immediate past President of the Bank of Cherry Valley, a position he held for 35 years. Smith also served as Chief of Staff for Governor Bill Clinton in 1983 and 1984.

Smith and his wife, the former Alva Jane Murray of Wynne, have two daughters, one son and five grandchildren. The Smiths are members of the Wynne Presbyterian Church.

Flowers, of North Little Rock, began his career with the Department in June 1969 following graduation from the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville with a degree in Civil Engineering. While attending college, he worked as a summer employee for four years with the Department in the District Five office at Batesville.

Upon completion of the engineering orientation program, he was assigned as a Planning Engineer. He has also worked as Assistant Resident Engineer (Searcy), Resident Engineer (Huntsville and



Maurice Smith and Dan Flowers

tive Committee; an Advisory Council member of the Commission on Arkansas' Future; and a member of the Arkansas Scenic Resources Preservation Coordinating Committee. He was appointed by former governor Bill Clinton to serve on the State Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Commission and the Highway Safety Program Advisory Council. Smith is also a member of the Special Committee

ogers), Assistant Construction Engineer (Little Rock), Assistant District Engineer (Little Rock), District Six Engineer (Little Rock), State Construction Engineer, and Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations. He became Assistant Director in January 1988.

He is active on the national level in the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO), the American Association of State Highway

and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the Transportation Research Board (TRB).

Recently, he was appointed Chairman of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Design. He was selected as one of four state highway officials nationwide to accompany Federal Highway Administration officials and industry members on a recent European tour to review innovative contracting practices.

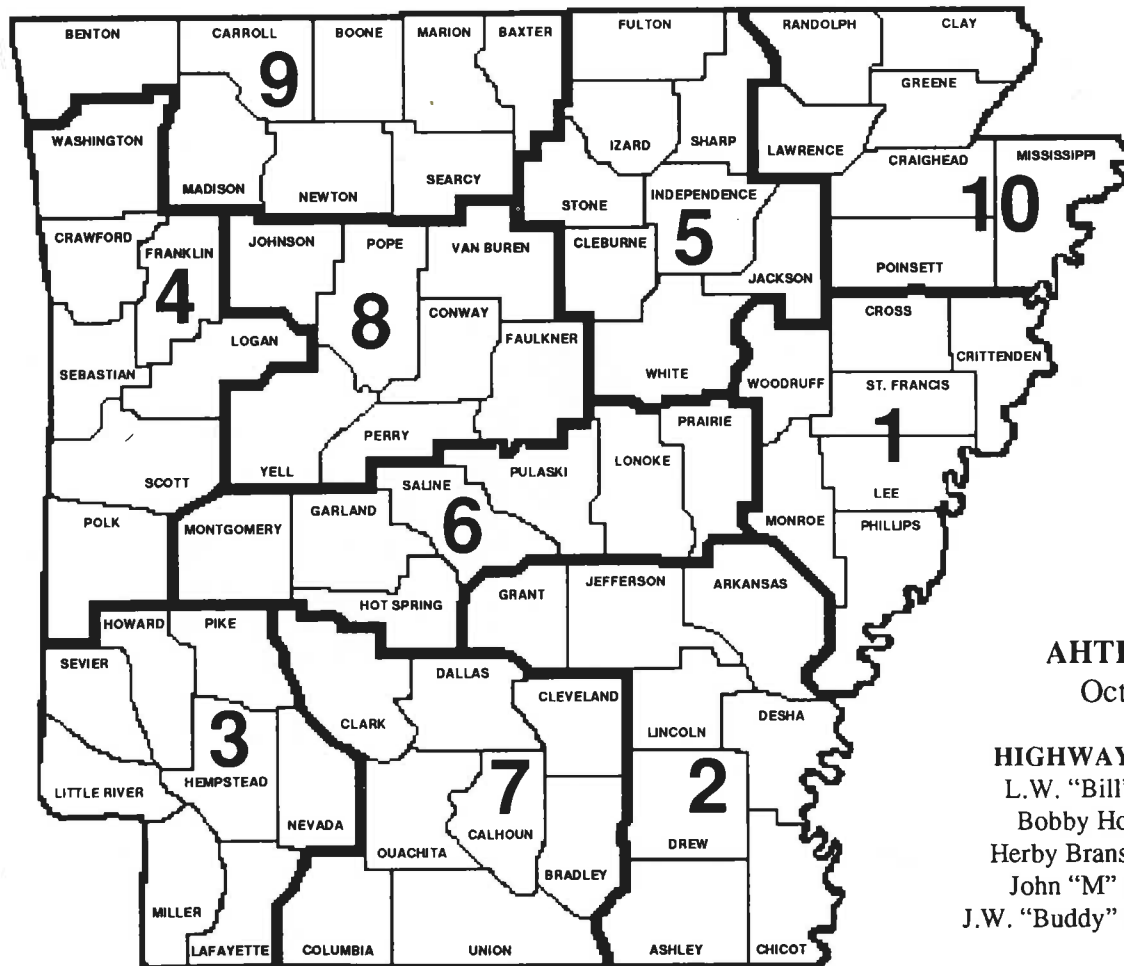
Flowers is originally from

Batesville and graduated from Batesville High School. He is a registered Professional Engineer, a member of the University of Arkansas' Academy of Civil Engineering, the Little Rock Engineers Club and serves on the Mack-Blackwell Transportation Center's Professional Advisory Board at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

He is married to the former Sara Stobaugh of Hughes and the father of three children.

Commission Re-aligns Highway Districts

The Arkansas State Highway Commission, effective October 1, 1993, has changed the following highway district boundaries to include the following changes: Cleveland County from District 2 to District 7; Lafayette County from District 7 to District 3; Montgomery County from District 3 to District 6; and Grant County from District 6 to District 2. The new Highway District map is shown below.



AHTD District Map
October 1, 1993

- HIGHWAY COMMISSIONERS**
 L.W. "Bill" Clark, District 2 & 6
 Bobby Hopper, Districts 4 & 9
 Herby Branscum, Jr., District 5 & 8
 John "M" Lipton, District 3 & 7
 J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, District 1 & 10

Arkansas and Texas Governors Pledge Support For North-South Highway Corridor

Arkansas Governor Jim Guy Tucker and Texas Governor Ann Richards met at the state line in Texarkana, USA on September 29 and pledged their support for a highway project that would benefit both states.

Known locally as the Interstate 49 project, the proposed route generally follows the Highway 71 corridor from Shreveport, Louisiana to Kansas City, Missouri. The I-49 designation comes from the fact that the route would be a northern extension of I-49 in Louisiana.

With Governor Tucker standing on the east side of the line and

Governor Richards just a few feet away on the west side, the governors told the large crowd in front of the Texarkana Post Office Building that they were united in their support for the highway.

Prior to a news conference, the governors met with members of the Arkansas State Highway Commission, the Chairman of the Texas Transportation Commission, and other state and local officials to discuss the status of the project.

Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark told the governors that environmental and location studies were just

beginning north and south of Texarkana on the Arkansas side. "We are looking at several alternate locations and the consultants should be finished with their work in about 15 months," Clark said.

Although an overall cost estimate has not been made, a feasibility study in 1988 estimated that the Arkansas portion of the route would cost in excess of \$1.8 billion. The 1991 federal highway bill provided \$170 million for improvements to U.S. 71. Almost \$70 million is designated for the portion from the Louisiana state line north to Fort Smith.

Commissioner John Lipton pointed out that "by utilizing a consultant, we can pursue this project and get it ready for contract in the shortest time possible."

"Hopefully, the first five-mile section south of Texarkana can be let to contract in approximately two years," Lipton said.

Governor Tucker called the highway a major element in the economic development of Arkansas. "We need a four-lane highway system that allows you to move from Texarkana up through west Arkansas and all the way out to Kansas City," Tucker said.

Both governors agreed that the highway would mean jobs for the states, pointing out that the benefits



Arkansas Governor Jim Guy Tucker addresses the crowd as Texas Governor Ann Richards, left, and members of the Arkansas Highway Commission look on.

would not stop at the state line.

Under the current proposal, about 16 miles of the route would pass through Texas, and Governor Richards joked that it is unusual for a Texas governor to "urge that federal highway funds be spent in Arkansas."

"We believe that east Texas and Arkansas are poised to be the gateways of trade and commerce," Richards said. "We firmly believe that this corridor is vital to the flow of goods and services from this area," she added.

"It's not just a question of highways, we're talking jobs," Tucker said. "And when you're talking about jobs, you're talking about putting meat on the table, being able to send your kids to school, and giving people hope for the future."



Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, right, discusses the I-49 project with Governor Richards and Governor Tucker.



(L-R) Texas Transportation Commission Chairman David Bernsen, Arkansas Highway Commissioners Bobby Hopper and Herby Branscum, Jr., Governors Richards and Tucker, Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, and Arkansas Highway Commissioners John "M" Lipton, and J.W. "Buddy" Benafield.

PROFITING FROM A CHANGING WORKFORCE

A Workshop for Human Resources Professionals

Human Resources Managers representing 40 state departments of transportation were in Little Rock September 26-29 at the Excelsior Hotel for the AASHTO National Workshop of Human Resources Professionals.

Sponsored by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Subcommittee on Personnel and Human Resources, the workshop focused on the issues and challenges of workforce diversity, according to Jane Wilson, head of the AHTD Human Resources Division and Vice Chair of AASHTO Subcommittee.

AHTD Director Maurice Smith welcomed the delegates to Arkan-

sas and said he was pleased that a number of leading experts on the subject of workforce diversity were on the program for the conference.

U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers and Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater were the keynote speakers on the opening day and challenged the human resources professionals to commit themselves to building a fair and unprejudiced society.

"What we are trying to accomplish with diversity is tolerance. We have to be more innovative than we have in the past," Senator Bumpers said.

Bumpers pointed out that, as a nation, we have come a long way. He noted that in this century women have been given the right to vote; the poll tax, which denied many minorities the right to vote, was repealed; Social Security was instituted; Civil Rights legislation was approved; and the Americans with Disabilities Act was passed.

"These have all been good for our nation. I

don't believe anyone wants to turn the clock back," he said. "People have always resisted change because they are afraid of what might happen, but we must overcome this attitude," he said.

Arkansas State Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, in introducing Slater to the audience, noted that Slater was an "ultimate problem solver and consensus builder." He credited Slater with initiating several programs at the AHTD that have led to a better understanding of workforce diversity within the Department. Slater served as a member of the Highway Commission from 1987 to May 1993 when he was appointed by President Clinton to head the Federal Highway Administration.

Slater said that diversity is what



Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater addresses the workshop participants at the opening session.



U.S. Senator Dale Bumpers, from Arkansas, was one of the keynote speakers at the workshop.

akes America the great nation that it is. He reminded the audience that America is a nation of nations. "Throughout our history we have been willing to invest in people, our most precious resource," he said. "I believe those of us in transportation have a very special role to play. Transportation is more than concrete and steel, it is a quality of life issue," he added.

"Some say diversity can be our downfall, but I say 'No!'. It has given us our very being. It represents all it can be to be an American. It represents strength. It will sustain us in the next century to continue to be a world leader," Slater said.

Although he has made several trips back to the State since his appointment as Federal Highway Administrator, Slater's attendance at the workshop was the first time since then that he had been able to meet with all five members of the Highway Commission and other Department staff members.

Other speakers and workshop sessions dealt with topics ranging from "Quality and Diversity in the Workforce" to "Preparing the Workforce for a Changing Environment." Jerry Hawkins, Director of Personnel and Training for the Federal Highway Administration said a goal of his agency is to create and maintain a diverse workforce.

"Diversity means inclusion for everyone. The issues we face relate to holding on to people once we get them," he said. Hawkins pointed out that, through Affirmative Action programs, agencies have attracted more minority and female workers. "We now have a diverse

workforce and we must develop a better understanding of the needs of these workers. We must move from Affirmative Action to achieving diversity," he added.

The recent flooding in Missouri gave the leadership of the Missouri Highway and Transportation Department (MHTD) the opportunity to apply some of the things they had learned regarding diversity and quality management, according to Rich Millard, Director of Human Resources for MHTD. "We empower our people in Missouri," Millard said. "We let them do their jobs. As a result, we accomplished much more



Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark



Art Morse, of Washington, Chairman of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Personnel and Human Resources, at the opening session.



Ray McCray and Rich Millard, of the Missouri Highway and Transportation Department, listen to another participant of the workshop.



Jerry Hawkins, Director of Personnel and Training for the FHWA

then we ever thought possible when it came to dealing with the flooding problems," he said.

Ray McCray, Assistant to the Chief Engineer for Administrative

Services in Missouri, noted that in order to achieve quality and diversity in the workforce, human resources managers must admit that differences exist and must do some-

thing about them. "We have pretended that we are one big happy family, but that is not correct," McCray said. "We have problems with gender gaps, ethnic differences and life styles. Too many organizations still won't adapt to the changes in employee attitudes. Organizations that don't change will not succeed in the future. We must realize that people are different and want different things," he added.

Reminding his audience that teamwork is an important ingredient of quality management, McCray said the variety of diversity on a team brings in new viewpoints. "It is easy to dream up new ideas for solving problems. But, selling those ideas to managers who still see the world through old lenses is a problem," he said.

"Workforce diversity is a reality, it is not going away. As human resources professionals, you must guide us in this change," McCray added.

The workshop began September 26 with a reception at the Capitol Hotel, and a dinner and cruise on the "Belle of Hot Springs" on Lake Hamilton at Hot Springs was held September 28, providing the attendees with ample opportunities for informal discussions.



Jane Wilson, Vice Chair of the AASHTO Subcommittee on Personnel and Human Resources

Mack-Blackwell Rural Transportation Study Center Designated at U of A

A ceremony to officially designate the Mack-Blackwell Rural Transportation Study Center at the University of Arkansas was held November 10 at Fayetteville.

Highway Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark told the University Board of Trustees that the study of rural transportation was extremely important to the country. "We all know how important this is to our State... the Highway Commission is looking forward to having access to the work being conducted by the Center and we are pleased that we will be able to directly participate in activities that will address transportation problems in rural America," he said.

The Center was established by the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) as one of three centers with a national scope. The legislation provided that the University could receive up to \$1 million each year for the next five years to study rural transportation issues. In order to receive these federal funds, the University is required to provide a dollar for dollar match.

The University approached the Highway Commission and asked that it participate with the University in funding the Center. The Commission agreed to provide \$300,000 the first year and \$600,000 each of the next two years in order for the University to receive the federal funds.

In appreciation for the Commission's support, the University named the Center for former state senators Y.M. Mack and Lawrence Blackwell, sponsors of the 1952 Constitutional Amendment that created the present Highway Commission setup.

The University Board of Trustees adopted a resolution commemorating the establishment of the Center and expressed its appreciation to the Highway Commission, the U.S. Department of Transportation and former U.S. Representative John Paul Hammerschmidt for their support of the Center. Hammerschmidt was instrumental in seeing that the University was selected as a site for one of the three regional centers.

In addition to the study of rural transportation issues, the Center also provides financial assistance to un-

dergraduate and graduate students.

Clark pointed out that the Commission is very interested in attracting young people to the field of engineering. He told the Trustees that the Department's Career Development Program, which began in 1989, was developed as a means to increase the interest in engineering and related fields among junior high students. "The Department staff has made over 1,600 presentations to nearly 35,000 students since the program began. We believe this is making a difference," he said.

The Center is currently sponsoring research in over 20 different areas, covering such diverse projects as the Economic Impact of Railroad Abandonments in Arkansas, Demand for Intermodal Transportation in Arkansas, and Effects of Rubber on Asphalt Mixes.



AHC Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, left, and U of A Board of Trustees Chairman H.L. Hembree after unveiling the sign for the Mack-Blackwell Rural Transportation Study Center.

MOVE IT

Campaign Announced

The scene is an all-too-familiar one: two motorists standing idly by their vehicles in the travel lane of the highway — bumpers dented, but no one hurt. Other vehicles move slowly by on either side while traffic backs up farther and farther. The motorists are waiting for the police to arrive so they can move their vehicles. But do they really have to wait?

“There is a common misconception that the vehicles involved in an accident should not be moved until the police arrive,” said Arkansas Highway Commission Chairman L.W. “Bill” Clark of Little Rock. “According to Arkansas law, a vehicle should be moved out of traffic to a place of safety unless it is disabled or someone is in need of medical attention.”

To help get this point across to Arkansas motorists, the Highway Commission and the Arkansas State Police held a joint news conference on September 15 to kick off the “MOVE IT” public awareness campaign. The purpose of the campaign is to inform motorists what to do if they are involved in an accident where no one is injured.

Minor property damage accidents frequently back traffic up and can lead to frustration for other motorists and sometimes can cause other accidents to occur, Clark noted.



AHC Chairman L.W. “Bill” Clark, center, announces the “MOVE IT” campaign.

“It’s very important for everyone to know it is OK to move your vehicle if there is an accident,” said State Police Captain John Chambers. “Police can reconstruct accidents, so motorists should not worry that we won’t be able to determine who is at fault once the vehicles are moved,” he added.

Over 75,000 bright yellow brochures are being distributed through the state revenue offices in Pulaski County to inform motorists of the “move it” requirement. Several thousand brochures were also distributed at the Arkansas State Fair in October.

“Although Pulaski County is being targeted, it is important to understand that the law applies state-

wide,” Clark said. The reason for targeting Pulaski County is because of the tremendous amount of traffic on the freeway system in Central Arkansas and the congestion problems during the rush hours.

Over the last two years, there were 5,736 traffic accidents just on the freeways in the Little Rock area. Of that number, 3,727, or 65 percent, were classified “property damage only” where no one was injured. “In those cases, the vehicles could have been moved before the police arrived,” Clark said.

Special funds from the Federal Highway Administration were used to print the “MOVE IT” brochures, which explain what to do in case of an accident.

FHWA Recognizes Four AHP Officers

Four officers of the Arkansas Highway Police Division were recently awarded Certificates of Appreciation from the Federal Highway Administration's Drug Interdiction Assistance Program (DIAP), for their outstanding contributions to traffic safety and commercial motor vehicle drug interdiction on the nation's highways.

The officers, Capt. George Coffman, 2nd Lt. Joe Upton, Pfc. Nick Phillips, and Ptl. Jack Stepp, were recognized for repeatedly demonstrating "administrative and practical proficiency in the detection and subsequent prosecution of individuals engaged in the transportation of large quantities of illegal substances." The four became



(L-R) Captain George Coffman, Ptl. Jack Stepp, 2nd Lt. Joe Upton, Pfc. Nick Phillips, and AHP Chief John Bailey.

the first officers to ever be honored under the FHWA's Drug Interdiction Assistance Program. Capt. Coffman accepted the certificates on behalf of the other officers at the

annual FHWA Commercial Motor Vehicle Drug Interdiction and Intelligence Networking Conference held in September in Ontario, California.

Officers Awarded Drug Recognition Expert Certificates

Three AHP Officers were amount 18 central Arkansas law enforcement officers presented certificates and pins by Governor Jim Guy Tucker and Arkansas High-

way Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark in October signifying the completion of training to become Drug Recognition Experts. The three are Corporals Ross

Batson, Kenneth Jordan and Randy Peek. The officers completed over 240 hours of classroom and field training to satisfy the requirements of the Drug Evaluation and Classification Program sponsored by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"Drugged and drunk driving is a very serious offense. Each year hundreds of Arkansans are killed and injured in motor vehicle accidents caused by someone who is impaired," Governor Tucker said.

"These officers are trained to quickly recognize impaired drivers and remove them from the highways before they become involved in an accident," he said.



(L-R) Commissioners Herby Branscum, Jr., L.W. "Bill" Clark, Cpls. Kenneth Jordan and Randy Peek, Chief John Bailey, Commissioners John "M" Lipton and Bobby Hopper. (Not pictured: Cpl. Ross Batson.)



Bill Richardson, FHWA Division Administrator, and Maurice Smith, AHTD Director, sign the agreement as Assistant Chief Engineer for Design Bob Walters, Assistant FHWA Administrator Dennis Merida, Assistant Chief Engineer for Operations Calvin Peevy, FHWA Financial Manager Sue Hesley, Programs and Contracts Engineer Steve Teague, Chief Engineer Charles Venable, Assistant Chief Engineer for Planning Roger Almond, and FHWA Field Operations Engineer Carl Kraehmer, look on.

Project Oversight Plan Approved

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department (AHTD) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have entered into an agreement in which the AHTD will assume many of the responsibilities for program and project activity that were formerly vested with the FHWA.

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) provided states with greater flexibility in using Federal-aid highway funds. In doing so, the ISTEA permits states to "exempt" themselves from FHWA oversight

in the following areas:

1. All projects not on the national highway system (NHS).
2. Resurfacing, restoration, and rehabilitation (3R) projects on the NHS.
3. Low cost projects (less than \$1 million) on the NHS.

The AHTD selected all three exemptions permitted by ISTEA. In assuming the responsibilities for project development and monitoring, AHTD's current procedures will provide for all aspects of exempt projects. The Department's internal policies and procedures will

form the basic program guidelines by which FHWA will conduct future "program reviews" on these projects.

FHWA will continue to be involved in all aspects on a project-by-project basis in ensuring compliance with Federal laws, including the National Environmental Policy Act.

The agreement was signed by Maurice Smith, AHTD Director, and Bill Richardson, FHWA Division Administrator and was effective October 1, 1993.

Looking for a Bargain!

The Highway and Transportation Department held its annual auction of used and obsolete equipment Thursday, October 28, at the Equipment and Procurement complex in Little Rock. As usual, more than 800 people were on hand to hunt for bargains.

Sold at the sale were items which had served their useful life with the Department and were due for replacement. Some of the merchandise had become obsolete, and some simply no longer worked. The most popular selling items were the tractor mowers, pickup trucks, dump trucks, and sedans. Equipment dealers, used car dealers, and contractors made up the majority of the over 500 registered bidders.

Bids were taken on over 300 "lots" of items. Some of the lots



Employees of Blackmon Auctions keep track of the bidding for a particular piece of equipment.

consisted of only one item, but some, like scrap tires or small parts, contained several different pieces.

The auction began at 10:00 a.m. and concluded shortly after 4:30 p.m. When the dust had settled, more than \$546,500 in equipment had changed hands.

"We were well pleased with the turnout," said Equipment and Procurement Division Head Al Sacco. "The whole process went very smoothly."

Blackmon Auction and Realty, Inc., of Little Rock, conducted the auction. "They do a real good job," Sacco said of the Blackmon organization.

They should have the AHTD auction down pat by now - Blackmon has conducted 14 of the last 19 Department auctions.



A good look at some of the more than 300 lots of items auctioned off on October 28.

Dedication Held For Highway 167 Bridge at Calion

A bit of nostalgia was in the air Friday, September 3, as more than 100 people attended a dedication ceremony for the new Highway 167 bridge crossing the Ouachita River on the Calhoun/Union County line. Sixty-two years earlier, in 1931, a similar crowd gathered just a few feet away to celebrate the opening of the first bridge to cross the river on that stretch of highway.

"We were proud of that bridge back then," said Boyd Alderson of El Dorado, who attended both dedications. "It was a short cut to Little Rock and Fordyce. It was a great thing for Union County."

"This project is much more than just a bridge," Highway Commissioner John "M" Lipton of Warren told the crowd. "This is a vital link to the total transportation system of this area of the state. Thirty-five



The new Highway 167 (Calion) Bridge, left, appears to dwarf the old bridge.

hundred vehicles a day utilize that old bridge, and nearly twenty percent are heavy trucks."

Referring to the old bridge adjacent to the crowd gathered atop the new structure, Lipton said, "Take a

photograph of it. It has served this area well for over 62 years, but it won't be long before the contract begins to tear it down." Traylor Brothers, Inc., of Evansville, Indiana was awarded a \$10.57 million contract by the Highway Commission on May 23, 1990 for the construction of the new bridge and the dismantling of the old one.

The ceremony was sponsored by the El Dorado Chamber of Commerce. "This is a celebration we have been looking forward to for a long time," said Dr. Steve Smart, Chairman of the Board of the El Dorado Chamber of Commerce and emcee of the dedication. "We especially appreciate the presence of all five Highway Commissioners."

Others in attendance included State Senator Bill Moore of El Dorado, and State Representatives Bobby Newman of Smackover, Marion Owens of Warren, and Jodie Mahoney of El Dorado.



(L-R) Rep. Marion Owens of Warren, Sen. Bill Moore of El Dorado, Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield, Rep. Bobby Newman of Smackover, Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, Commission John "M" Lipton, Commission Vice Chairman Bobby Hopper, Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr., AHTD Assistant Director Dan Flowers and AHTD Resident Engineer Bob Myers.

Highway 49 Widening Topic of Brookland Public Hearing

To bypass or not to bypass - that was the question that was repeated over and over again at a public hearing Thursday, October 21, in the Brookland School Cafeteria.

The open forum hearing covered two projects along Highway 49 between Jonesboro and Paragould - one from Farville north to Highway 230, and the second from Highway 230 up to Highway 69. Both projects involve widening the highway to four lanes.

It would be hard to find anyone in northeast Arkansas who didn't favor the widening of Highway 49, but the main topic of discussion seemed to be what to do in the vicinity of the small town of

Brookland. Displays at the hearing showed the existing route through Brookland and two bypass alternates to the west of town.

The Department had determined that to widen on existing location through town would be too costly because of the number of relocatees and the heavy utility involvement. Most of the 140+ people who came by the hearing agreed with that assessment, but some business owners felt that their businesses would be hurt to the point they would have to shut down if the town were bypassed.

There was much discussion at the hearing involving the two bypass alternates. Most of the written

and oral comments taken at the hearing favored the Department's preferred alternate, Alternate X. That route intersected with existing Highway 49 farther north than the other bypass alternate, Alternate Z. The Department selected Alternate X as the preferred route based on overall lower cost and fewer relocatees.

The hearing generated much debate and discussion about the construction alternatives. The Department plans to select a route for the Brookland area after the first of the year and have the first project ready for contract in early 1995. Construction to widen Highway 49 from Paragould south to Highway 69 began earlier this year.

Hearing Held at Pine Bluff To Discuss Highway 65 Improvements

Residents of southeast Arkansas have looked forward to the day Highway 65 would be widened to four lanes between Pine Bluff and Lake Village for a long time. Earlier this year, their dream began to materialize as work got underway to widen the southern portion of the route between McGehee and Lake Village.

In order to get the project underway from Pine Bluff south, the Highway and Transportation Department held a public hearing in the Community Room of Pine Bluff's Pines Mall Thursday, September 16. Specifically, the hearing covered that

portion of Highway 65 from Pine Bluff to Linwood.

About 50 area residents attended the hearing. Assistant Chief Engineer for Design Bob Walters addressed the crowd about the project. "The 1991 Highway Improvement Program provided a mechanism for widening a little over 600 miles of existing state highways from two lanes to four lanes," Walters said. "One of the routes that was designated to be widened was the U.S. Highway 65 corridor from Pine Bluff to the Mississippi River bridge near Lake Village."

The crowd was generally in fa-

vor of the 8.3-mile project, though some concerns were raised regarding a rural water users association along the route. "If we have to swallow the cost of relocating these water lines, we may have to triple our water rates," commented Jefferson County Judge Jack Jones, who is a member of the water users association. "It's going to be a real bad hardship on many of the people in that water district."

Walters told the crowd that, barring any complications, the Department planned to have the project ready to go to contract in mid-1994.

Commissioner Branscum Elected Vice Chair of AASHTO Committee

Highway Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr., of Perryville, was recently elected as the Vice Chairman of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Special Committee of Commissioners and Boards. His election came in October at the AASHTO Annual Meeting in Detroit, Michigan. Branscum previously served as a member of the Executive Committee.

While serving on the Executive Committee, Branscum chaired the Committee's meeting of the Southeastern Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (SASHTO) members in Atlanta, Georgia in September.

Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater, a former Chairman of the Arkansas State Highway Commission, spoke to the Committee at both the SASHTO and AASHTO meetings.



(L-R) Commissioner Herby Branscum, Jr., and Federal Highway Administrator Rodney E. Slater

The main objective of the Committee is to serve as a liaison between the state highway and transportation departments and the Commissions and Boards of those agencies. The Committee also promotes a greater public awareness of

the importance of a safe and adequate transportation system in the United States and encourages unified communication between the Commissions and Boards and the U.S. Congress on matters of importance to transportation.

Maurice Smith Receives Stafford Award

Maurice Smith, AHTD Director, was a recipient of a 1993 Stafford Award presented by Scenic America at the organization's annual Gala Award Dinner on October 18 in Washington, D.C.

Smith was honored as a member of the Arkansas Scenic Resources Preserving Coordinating Committee and as Director of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department's scenic byway program.

"Due to your outstanding commitment and dedication to the preservation of scenic resources, you have been recognized as a true leader in the field," said Sally Oldham, President of Scenic America.

Oldham praised the efforts of the Coordinating Committee for creating a scenic resources register. She called the register "an important national precedent and a vital model to other states. The register will preserve the state's natural beauty, improve tourism and local communities." The Arkansas scenic byway program was cited for its "potential to protect the state's recognized scenic resources for residents and visitors to enjoy."

Scenic America is the only national organization solely dedicated to preserving and enhancing the scenic character of America's communities and countryside. The organization works for the passage of federal and state laws that encourage scenic conservation. Its membership includes thousands of individuals and organizations dedicated to conserving scenic resources.

Third Annual Equipment Operators' Roaddeo Held

The final events for the Department's Third Annual Equipment Operators' Roaddeo were held Tuesday, November 9 at the Central Shops of the Equipment and Procurement Division in Little Rock. More than 150 employees from throughout the state started out earlier this year to compete for top operator honors. Competitions were held for each of the ten Districts and the Central Headquarters. The winners in those events then moved on to compete at the statewide Roaddeo.

In addition to various truck driving events, tractor/mower competition, and backhoe competition, a new event for motor patrol operators was added this year.

The Equipment Operators' Roaddeo began three years ago as a joint effort of the Training and Safety Section of the Human Resources Division, the Equipment and Procurement Division and the Arkansas Highway Police Division to instill safe driving practices, skills perfection and to foster pride in a job well done.

The first year of competition was limited to truck driving skills. Last year, events for tractor operators were added, followed by the motor patrol events this year. A new award category was also added this year for the team with the highest total points received at the statewide competition.

Congratulations to all of the men and women who participated this year. While there was a certain element of fun associated with the competition, it also involved a great deal of hard work.



FIRST PLACE CATEGORY WINNERS

(L-R) Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark; Earnest Rose, D-1, Tractor-Mower; Kenny Riley, D-9, Backhoe; Larry Fuches, D-2, Single Axle Dump Truck; Tommy Fife, D-7, Tractor/Lowboy; Morris Nutt, D-6, Motor Patrol; David Waters, D-6, Tandem Axle Dump Truck; and Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield.



**TEAM CHAMPIONS
DISTRICT 6**

(L-R) Brian Wright, Commission Chairman L.W. "Bill" Clark, David Waters, Morris Nutt, Steve Talley, Wayne Beavers, Ralph Hall, James Welcher, Larkie Cobb, Bill Bogle and Commissioner J.W. "Buddy" Benafield



(L-R) Commissioners Bil Clark and Buddy Benafield with Assistant Director Dan Flowers and Human Resources Division Head Jane Wilson.



(L-R) Dist. 7 Engr. Coy Campbell, Dist. 3 Engr. William Tyler, C&M Staff Engr. Mike Sebren, ROW Division Head Bob Parker and Dist. 1 Engr. Ray Woodruff



(L-R) Personnel Officer Melba Shepard and Equipment Specialist Odis Barker served as two of the judges for the Equipment Operators' Roado.



(L-R) Assistant Chief Engineer Calvin Peevy, Dist. 4 Engineer and Roado Committee Chairman Harold Beaver and Assistant Director Dan Flowers.

Equipment Operators' Roadeo Categories



SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK



BACKHOE



MOTOR PATROL



TANDEM AXLE DUMP TRUCK



TRACTOR MOWER



LOWBOY/FLOAT TRUCK

SAVED BY THE BELT

Saved By The Belt is a continuing feature of **Arkansas Highways** relating personal experiences of Department employees who have been involved in motor vehicle accidents and avoided serious injury or death because they were using their seat belts. Employees who would like to share their story should contact the Public Affairs Office at 569-2227.

District 5 Employee, Randall Slayden, Credits Seat Belt for Preventing Injury



Like most employees, Randall Slayden, Truck Driver in District Five at Batesville, is not especially fond of Mondays. However, Monday, June 15, 1992 could be considered his lucky day.

The day started normally for Slayden. He was assigned to take the 1978 International truck and float trailer he had been driving for the past six years to Bald Knob and pick up a shoulder paving machine and return it to the District shop in Batesville. Shortly after lunch he loaded the machine and was headed north on Highway 167 when his normal work day suddenly changed.

"I was about ten minutes away from the District shop and I had to stop on the south end of the bridge at Salado Creek because my load was too wide to cross the bridge while there was oncoming traffic," he said. "The pilot truck had crossed the bridge and I was waiting for several Wal-Mart trucks to clear the bridge before I crossed. All of a sudden, another 18-

heeler came down the hill behind me. He tried to stop but his brakes apparently didn't work. He swerved off on the shoulder, hit the guard rail and bounced into the paving machine on my trailer then hit the cab of my truck and knocked my truck and trailer out into both lanes of traffic," he said.

The accident happened so fast that Slayden didn't have time to react. In fact, he didn't know he was about to be hit until he heard the noise from the 18-wheeler as it slammed into the guard rail.

"Pieces of the truck went flying everywhere. Some of them came through the passenger window of my truck and landed in the cab with me," he said. "The next thing I knew, I was out in the middle of the highway. One of the Wal-Mart trucks was coming across the bridge and he was able to stop before hitting me."

The driver and passenger in the 18-wheeler were not wearing seat belts and both were thrown out of the truck as it slammed into the bridge end after hitting Slayden's truck. The passenger died as a result of his injuries and the driver was taken to a Batesville hospital and treated for leg injuries.

"There is no telling what would have happened to me if I had not been wearing my seat belt," Slayden said. "I know I would have been knocked around inside the cab. Maybe even thrown out through the windshield. I'm just glad I had my seat belt buckled," he added.

The 1987 International truck that hit Slayden was destroyed.



"... I don't feel comfortable now unless I have the seat belt buckled."

RANDALL SLAYDEN

Slayden hasn't always been a proponent of seat belts. Before the Department policy on seat belt use was issued in 1990 he very seldom buckled up.

"I usually buckled the seat belt in the truck because it is a rough ride and the seat belt keeps you in place. But I hardly ever wore one in my personal car," he said. "After I got in the habit of buckling up, it just seemed natural to keep doing it, no matter what vehicle I was in. As a matter of fact, I don't feel comfortable now unless I have the seat belt buckled," he said.

Assistant Director Dan Flowers Appointed To FHWA Committee

Assistant Director Dan Flowers has been appointed to a one year term on the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) In-



Flowers

formation Management Committee. The appointment was announced by Rodney E. Slater, Federal Highway Administrator.

"Because of Mr. Flowers' expertise and interest in improving communications between the Federal Highway Administration and the States, we believe he will be an extremely valuable member of our Committee," Slater said.

The Committee was established to provide ongoing strategic leadership to FHWA's information management initiatives. Its first achievement was to develop a Strategic Information Management (SIM) Plan for the agency.

The document defines information management policies and principles to ensure the most efficient and effective use of information and information technology in FHWA.

The implementation of the SIM Plan will be the Committee's task during this next year, according to Slater.

Richard Blaine Elected District Governor for Toastmasters

Richard Blaine, CPA, Payroll Section Head in the Fiscal Services Division, has been elected District Governor of Toastmasters International District 43 for 1993-94.

Blaine recently had the honor of being on hand when Arkansas Governor Jim Guy Tucker issued a proclamation recognizing the work of Toastmasters International and proclaiming the week of October 17 - 24 as "Toastmasters Week" in Arkansas.

A member of Toastmasters for 15 years, Blaine has served in all District office positions. The District is comprised of Arkansas (excluding Texarkana), west Tennessee and northern Mississippi. "Being elected to the highest Toastmaster office in the District is an honor and a great privilege," Blaine said. "Leading the District to provide a wider range of communication and

leadership skills is the emphasis and challenge of this international organization this year."

Blaine has been with the AHTD since 1978 and has been Section Head for the past eight years. He earned a political science degree from the University of Florida and completed accounting courses at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.



Richard Blaine and Governor Jim Guy Tucker



1994 AHTD Retirees' Association Officers

(L-R) Frank Battisto, Past President; Charles Frazier, President; Emily Rogers, Secretary/Treasurer; Charles Broadway, Vice President; and John Hall, Retirees' Representative on the Retirement Board.



Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department

We have been to a lot of rest areas from Michigan to Florida, then through Alabama, Mississippi, and to Arkansas. The first one we stopped at in Arkansas was at Osceola. As soon as we pulled in, we both commented how nice it was. When I went into the restroom I was very impressed. It was honestly the cleanest I have ever been in. And Ellen, the manager, was so nice and very friendly. Thank you Arkansas, for your lovely rest areas.

Ed and Janet Grames, Cookeville, TN

Ralph Fulton, District 9 Engineer, Harrison

I wanted to let you know that we appreciate all that you and your department does to keep the state highways here in the Village maintained. All of the highways and right of ways here in Bella Vista Village looked great for the Phillips Classic that took place the weekend of June 12-13. If you should ever need our assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us.

F. Michael Taggart, Bella Vista Village Property Owners Association

Mr. Charles McLemore
Arkansas Dept. of Parks & Tourism

Re: Norma Sims and Sandy Massengale

The purpose of this letter is to commend the above named ladies who work in the information and hospitality stop in Harrison.

On December 3, 1992, my wife and I stopped at this facility on our way to Branson, Missouri to use the rest rooms and to stretch. My wife had just completed radiation treatment for lung cancer and was weak, however mobile.

She called for me to assist her from the ladies room and she barely made it to the office. The two ladies named above provided a chair, water, and comfort. We were asked if we thought medical help was necessary, but we declined. We rested for awhile, all the time the ladies were seeing to my wife's comfort to the extent I don't believe her mother could have taken better care of her. We then resumed our trip, my wife being ever so thankful for the assistance rendered. Needless to say I too was grateful and will forever be.

Unfortunately, on January 26, 1993, my wife passed away as a result of the lung cancer.

I passed that way again on May 25, 1993, and felt that I had to stop and see if the two ladies were still employed, and if so, to once again express my appreciation and thanks for the excellent way they cared for my wife.

My hat is off to those of you who care so much. Keep up the good work and your rewards will be many. Thanks again.

Vernon N. Landry, Mandeville, LA

Editor's Note: Sandy Massengale is the rest area attendant employed by the Highway & Transportation Department in District 9.

Monticello Maintenance Crew

I have lived in Monticello for over thirty-two years. Over the years, this has been the best year ever. The grass was cut down the side of the yard and a patch of big grass was cut in the front. This improved the looks of things so much and I wanted you to know I certainly do appreciate it.

Thank you again for a super job.

Aundry Paschall
Monticello, AR

State Highway Department
To Whom It May Concern

The James Hetzel family, from Texas, has certainly enjoyed the extremely clean restrooms and rest areas while touring the State of Arkansas.

The James Hetzel family,
Williamson Settlement

Bobby Hopper, Commissioner
Arkansas State Highway Commission

Not many times do we get to write politicians for being efficient. After reading the ranking for the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department in the Gazette, I would say all commissioners, directors and employees of the State Highway Department deserve a standing ovation.

What a different world it would be if all branches of government worked this way. Keep up the good work!

Gerald L. Harp, Vice President Operations
Harp's Food Store, Springdale, AR

Ralph Hall, District 6 Engineer, Little Rock

We want you to know that we truly appreciate all the great work you do on Arkansas Highway 70B through the Gulpha Gorge in Hot Springs National Park. The actions you take to maintain this road to your standards and those of the National Park Service are outstanding, and recently exemplified by the outstanding efforts of Bill Crumpton and his crew in repairing and replacing the traffic signs. Our hope is that vandalism will not happen to these new signs and users of this scenic road can appreciate your work which will help carry them through the area safely.

We send our sincere thanks to you, Bill Crumpton, and his crew for the special attention given these signs, and all the other work you do throughout the year. Your entire department helps make Hot Springs National Park a better place.

Roger Giddings, Superintendent - Hot Springs National Park
United States Department of the Interior

Melba Shepard, AHTD Personnel Officer

I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to work for the Highway Department the past four summers. Each summer has provided me with educational knowledge and has also allowed me to become acquainted with many other employees. The past two summers working in the Computer Services Division has provided me with more applicable knowledge of computers than I could have ever learned in the classroom, not to mention the friendships made.

I plan on attending summer school next summer, in order to graduate in the fall. I hope that upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting, I will be considered for full time employment with the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department. Once again, thank you for giving me a chance.

James K. Hicks, Jr., Little Rock, AR

State Highway Department

Thought you would like to know how much we enjoyed the rest area near Biscoe, mile 199 on Interstate 40 East. We drive a motor home and enjoyed the separation from trucks and the fumes they emit. The comfort station was clean and the warm water was appreciated. We are traveling home to Wisconsin after a vacation in southern Texas at Harlingen with two small girls. Thanks for making the trip more pleasant. We enjoyed a five hour nap at your park.

Dorothy Schaefer, South Milwaukee, WI

To The Governor of Arkansas

I have been a resident of California for more than fifty years, and although I don't consider myself a world traveler, by any stretch of the imagination, I have driven in nine or ten states. I'd like to congratulate you on the wonderful roads and road signs in Arkansas. What a pleasure it is to drive there! You have the best directions and signs anywhere. Oklahoma, on the other hand, has the worst.

My friend from Texas and I recently vacationed in Eureka Springs for the second year in a row, and what a beautiful little town. We really love it.

Arkansas is a beautiful state and I know you are proud of it.

Shirley Brinkman, Canoga Park, CA

Jim Briley, District 2 Engineer, Pine Bluff

On behalf of Arkansas County, the City of Stuttgart and the residents of North West Stuttgart, we appreciate very much you looking into the problem and lowering the culverts that cross Highway 79 at West Washington.

I stopped by the other day and the ditch on the south side of Highway 79 was dry which means there was not water backed up into North West Stuttgart. I believe that this will help the flooding problem by allowing water to flow more quickly through the lowered culvert.

Thanks again for your support in this matter and if I can be of service please don't hesitate to call. Thanks again for a job well done.

Glenn "Sonny" Cox, Arkansas County Judge

Jane Wilson, Division Head of Human Resources

I want to commend you and your staff for the superior job of hosting the recent AASHTO Workshop for Human Resource professionals. All of your planning and hard work resulted in an outstanding workshop. Many participants commented on the quality of the sessions and arrangements.

Jane, you have a very professional, efficient, and cooperative staff in the Human Resources Division. Please convey my appreciation to them.

Nancy and I thoroughly enjoyed the visit to Little Rock and our association with each of you. I look forward to talking with you soon.

Ben M. Morgan, Human Resources Director
Mississippi Department of Transportation, Jackson, MS

Joe Barnett, District 10 Engineer, Paragould

As you may or may not know, recently I had stopped at the Rest Area on vacation in Corning. During my stop, I lost four diamond rings. An employee, Mr. Jerry Reeves, found my rings. I want to formally commend him and your staff on their thoughtfulness and honesty in returning my rings to me.

I wanted to let you know how much I appreciate the honesty, helpfulness, and cooperation your department has given me. Without Mr. Reeves and your staff, I could have suffered a lot of sentimental loss over these rings. I am so appreciative to them for their cooperation in returning them to me. They made my day!

Mrs. Emma N. Owen

Ms. Susan Bradley, Area Beautification Coordinator
AHTD Environmental Division

I want to drop you a line and let you know how appreciative we are in Searcy for all you did in correcting the unsightly problem we had on Race Street.

Your testimony was vital to securing a favorable decision from Judge Hannah, and during that testimony, your honesty and fairness to all concerned was very evident.

Susan, you are a great person. Keep up the good work and the City of Searcy thanks you. If I can be of any help to you at any time, please call me.

David Evans, Mayor, City of Searcy, AR

Around the Department

BRIDGE

Pictured below are the children of Dennis and Mel Vire. They are Jimmy, age 2; Clara, age 5; and Johnny, age 3 months.



Jimmy, Clara and Johnny Vire

CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

Congratulations to Cynthia Anderson who completed 5 years of service in October. She was presented her certificate and charm by State Construction and Maintenance Engineer Allan Holmes.

James House and his family enjoyed a wonderful two-week vacation this summer in Canada, Alaska and the northern United States. They visited Glacier National Park in Montana, drove the Alaskan Highway, and visited Jasper and Banff National Parks in Canada. James brought back pictures of some breathtaking scenery to share with us.

On September 17, the Final Estimates Section had cake and coffee in recognition of Allen Phillips and Tina Adams receiving their ten-year service awards.



Allen Phillips and Tina Adams

Carolyn Burluson's son, Anthony, had back surgery in October. He is now home and doing fine and we wish him a speedy recovery. Carolyn also has a new grandson, Benjamin Burluson.

Congratulations to Tina Adams and Tiger McLain who were married October 9. Tina is an Advanced Estimates Technician in Final Estimates and Tiger is a Senior State Aid Designer in the State Aid Division.



Tina and Tiger McLain

We would like to congratulate Brian Bratcher, of Heavy Bridge, and his wife, Christi Ann, on the birth of their son, Justin Blake, on July 22.



Justin Blake Bratcher

David Lambert, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Engineer, and Keith Briggs, Heavy Bridge Maintenance Supervisor, visited Al Langhorn and Donald Parker, Bridge Repairers in Heavy Bridge Maintenance, last June at Fort Chaffee in Fort Smith while they were on training exercises. This was an invitation of the National Guard. Both David and Keith were impressed with the Guard operations during their visit.



David Lambert with Al Langhorn and Donald Parker

ENVIRONMENTAL

Babies, babies, and more babies. The Environmental Division has been blessed with several new additions to those who work in the division.

Mike and Cindy Webb are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Bethany Yvonne. She has bright blue eyes, golden hair, and she is really sweet. Bethany's brother, Mitch, seems to be adjusting to the latest addition to the Webb household. To see a nice picture of this beautiful girl, read Roadway's article in this magazine.

John and Elaine Fleming have a beautiful daughter, Michelle Elizabeth. She was born September 27 at Southwest Hospital and weighed 8 pounds, 9 ounces and is full of life. John is a Environmental Scientist II and his specialty is wetland delineations.

In our last article we didn't include a picture of James Solon Hart, the son of Jeff and Julie Hart. Julie works in the Beautification Section. James is doing fine and growing up.



James Solon Hart

We would like to welcome Carolyn Lynanne Taylor to our division. She transferred from the Human Resources Division. We are proud to have her aboard. Lynanne is married to David, and they have a beautiful daughter, Lyndsey Paige Taylor.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources Division would like to congratulate Yvonne Wright on her recent transfer from Central Office Receptionist to Boiler Room Operator in the Buildings Management Section.

We would also like to welcome this year's Cooperative Office Education (COE) students.

Latoya Green is a senior at McClellan High School and is assigned to the Records Management Section. Kristina McClendon and Nikki Wilson are seniors at Mills High School and also work in Records Management.

Benjamin Bennett and Daniel Veazey are assigned to the EEO Section. Benjamin is a senior at JA Fair High School and Daniel is a senior at McClellan High School. Derek Daugherty is a senior at Bryant High School and is assigned to the Training & Safety Section. Amanda Chaney works in the Personnel Section and is a senior at Joe T. Robinson High School. April Wheeler is also a senior at Robinson and is assigned to the Insurance Section.



COE Students: (Front) Bennett, Wilson, Billingsley and Wheeler. (Back) Veazey, Chaney, McClendon and Daugherty.

INTERNAL AUDIT

Velena McRae, Internal Auditor, recently went to the Bahamas for a short vacation. She came back with photos to report on the lovely time she enjoyed in the sun, sand and ocean. She also commented that she would like to go back real soon.



MATERIALS

We would like to welcome our seasonal employee, Reggie Rice, who transferred from the Clarksville RE office. He is attending UALR majoring in Construction Engineering. When not working, studying, or attending classes, Reggie enjoys hunting and water skiing.

Several of our employees took vacations this fall: Jerry Stacks and Charlie Means, and wives, vacationed in Hawaii. Only the 1991 hurricane had a bigger affect upon Hawaii's tourist industry as the picture of these two guys in hula skirts.

Bob Gossett and his wife spent a week in Key West in search of sunken treasure. Bob's back at work so the treasure must still be sunken.

Mike and Bonnie Limbird vacationed in Washington D.C. where they toured the Memorials, Arlington Cemetary, and the White House. He rented an old pickup truck and toured the New England states. They visited Gettysburg, then on to Philadephia to ring the Liberty Bell.

Bernard Mize returned from an antelope hunting trip in Wyoming. He bagged two goats. He made side trips to Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming and Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado. As always he went by way of New Mexico.

Terrell Watts, world famous and highly regarded fisherman, returned from his week of fishing in Indiana. He caught one nice fish.

Terry Pearson has been showing off his new ski boat. He says its not very big, but he has named it the USS Terry.

Krystal Banks, daughter of Harold Banks, was a member of the J.A. Fair High School Homecoming Court. Krystal obviously favors her mother more than Harold. Congratulations Krystal.



Krystal and Harold Banks

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Congratulations to Kathy Gilmore Gunderman. She and Norbert Gunderman, Jr. were married September 4. Norbert is a sales

representative for Terminex. After a wedding trip to Hot Springs, the new couple now resides in Morrilton.



Norbert and Kathy Gunderman, Jr.

Larry and Margaret Donnelly traveled to Nebraska to attend their son, Patrick's, wedding on October 9. Patrick and Kristine Cerny were married in St. Leonard's Catholic Church in Madison. After the wedding ceremony, a reception and dance were held in the Knights of Columbus Hall. Patrick has a Bachelor's Degree in Business from the University of Nebraska at Omaha and is an insurance adjuster with Farmers Insurance Group in Lincoln. Kristine graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and works at ATI Title Company as an escrow closer. The newlyweds honeymooned for a few days in Eureka Springs.



Patrick and Kristine Donnelly

Larry Foreman is recovering from the quadruple bypass surgery he had in August and we welcome back Carl Bennett following his heart surgery.

Debra Wray and her quarter horse, Go Lucky Scottie, won the Arkansas Breeders Futurity. The Futurity was a two day horse show. Go Lucky Scottie won his classes both days, coming home with 6 blue ribbons, 400 pounds of feed, and a BIG paycheck.

Roy Walden celebrated 20 years service with the Department in July and Larry Newman celebrated his 20 years in October. Mitzi Dunn celebrated her 10 years in October and Margarita Olive her 5 years in July. Congratulations to all of these employees on their many years of service.



Margarita Olive and Bryan Davis



Don Finkbeiner and Larry Newman

We welcome Terry Vittitow back. He is working in Technical Services with the road inventory. Girls... he is single!

We are enjoying having Cynthia Spencer with us part time while going to school at UALR. Cynthia and Ashley Epperson worked during the summer in road inventory. Ashley is studying in Italy this semester.

Pictured are some of the summer employees we had this year. From left to right are Michael Stone, Kimberly Roberts, Cynthia Spencer, Ashley Epperson, Myra Surratt, and Suzanne Cardinal. We also enjoyed having Satrick Anthony, Jason Clark, Meceila Davis, Michael Elcan, Michael Fallon, Richard Harris, Chandra Hinton, Stephen Yates, Nataraj Banihatti, Govindagowda Gowda, Michael Kelly, Jennie Lawson, and Greg Reeves work for us this summer. We wish them all the best in school this year.



Planning and Research Summer Employees

PROGRAMS AND CONTRACTS

Lots of weddings this time for Programs and Contracts. David Fort, son of Judy Parson, and Carla Wright were married September 25 in a beautiful evening ceremony at Landmark Baptist Church in Little Rock. They honeymooned on a cruise ship to the Bahamas where their ports of call were Freeport, Nassau and Coco Cay. Carla is a technician at Baptist Medical Center in Little Rock. David has worked in the State Aid Division. He is currently attending school and working for Cellular One.



Carla and David Fort

Susan Summers, daughter of Jo Summers, was married to Jon Thomas on September 11 in a lovely afternoon ceremony at Central Nazarene Church in Little Rock. They spent their honeymoon in Montego Bay, Jamaica. Susie is a former employee of the Human Resources Division working in Records Management while completing her college education. She now works for the State Finance and Administration Office in the tax audit section. Jon is employed by United Postal Service.



Jon and Susan Thomas

Jerry Dixon, and his wife Pat, are happy to announce the marriage of their daughter, Audrey, to Steve Price. The couple repeated their vows at Parkview Christian Church on September 30 and is making their home in Little Rock. Congratulations to Jerry's other daughter, Brandy, and her husband, Freddy, who celebrated their first wedding anniversary on November 30. They now reside in California where Brandy works for Wal-Mart and Freddy is a security specialist at Vandenburg Air Force Base. Best wishes to both couples. Jerry and Pat have one happy son, Jerry Jr., at home.



Steve and Audrey Price

Congratulations to all our newlyweds. All the brides were exceptionally beautiful, and the grooms weren't too bad either - we are only a little bit prejudiced!

Millie Houston, and husband Pat, took a three-week car trip out west this past September. Some of the highlights of their trip in-

ded Laughlin, Nevada, the Grand Canyon, week in San Francisco, California with Millie's sister and family, a few days in Reno, Nevada, back through Utah with a stop at the Mormon Tabernacle, then a stop at Central City, Colorado before finally heading home. They had a wonderful time but we are really glad to have her back at work!

Our congratulations to Millie for receiving her 30 year service award in July. Most of her years at AHTD have been spent right here in Programs & Contracts. Wonder how she has been able to bear up to that? Congratulations also to Mona Struble who received her 5 year pin and certificate in August.

Steve and Meribeth Heye took a trip to the Grand Canyon in their new camper. They took a side trip to Zion and Bryce, Utah where they camped and did some sightseeing. Steve was very impressed with all the weird, multi-colored rock formations at all three locations. They had a great time and broke their camper in right. By the way, if you live in Benton, or anywhere in central Arkansas for that matter, you'd better make sure all your insurance is in order because the FAA has inadvertently given Steve a pilot's license. Look alive and be ready to run for cover if you hear a plane overhead!

Annette Stanton is a proud Granny again. Her son, Barry, and his wife, Tonya, are the proud parents of a baby girl. Shelby Delane Stanton was born June 14. She is a very good baby according to Granny. Of course, no one is spoiling her.



Shelby Stanton

Millie Houston's sister, Doris Tracy, passed away this summer. Doris worked for AHTD for several years and resigned after major surgery left her unable to work. Those who knew Doris miss her very much. She was a special lady to a lot of people and was loved by all who knew her.

We were sorry to lose one of our Contract Proposal Section estimators. Dean Purkiss resigned in August to move to Hot Springs. We will miss him and wish him the best of luck. We are looking forward to an invitation to view his new home on Lake Hamilton.

Replacing Dean is Mazen Muradweig from Planning and Research. He is married and has two boys and a new baby girl. He is originally from Jordan and was living in Kuwait during Desert Storm. He graduated from Louisiana Tech in 1980 and has extensive construction and project scheduling experience gained from his years with an engineering consulting firm in Kuwait City. We are looking forward to working with Mazen and hearing all about his homeland. Welcome to P&C, Mazen.

RIGHT OF WAY

Congratulations to the following employees upon completion of 20 years of service with the Department. Danny Arendt, Section Head - Relocation; Kay Fisher, Court Order and Research Coordinator; Linda Lewis, Division Section Secretary - Engineering; Joseph Qualls, Senior Utility Coordinator; Jimmy Sanson, Reviewing Appraiser; and Ralph Williams, Senior Utilities Coordinator.

A luncheon was held on September 10 to recognize these employees. Everyone that attended enjoyed a good meal and lots of good natured humor.



Joe Qualls, Bob Tyler, and Ralph Williams



Linda Lewis and Ron Johnston

This was Linda Lewis' second luncheon. The Engineering Section gave her a surprise luncheon in June.

There has been two promotions in Right of Way recently. They are: David Harmon, promoted to Right of Way Engineering Specialist and Randy Lewis, promoted to Realty Appraiser/Negotiator. David and Randy both have 16 years of AHTD service.

ROADWAY DESIGN

There have been a lot of changes recently in Roadway Design. Charles Rain was promoted to replace Dick Siegler, who retired in August, as head of Secondary Design. Chris Miller is back at work after completing basic training for the Air Force this summer. Mark Woods transferred from Hydraulics to Secondary Design. George Gray Major transferred from General Design to Secondary Design and Leo Priest and Ron Cofer each received a promotion to the position of Senior Designer.

Shirley Bridges and her husband, Tom, are almost ready to move into their new home.

Julia Seay and her mother recently bought a home in Bryant and Lois Rachels just bought a new house with a swimming pool!

Tammy Caple and her husband, David, are building a new home. Hopefully they will be in it soon.

Cheryl Webb is back from maternity leave. She and her husband, Mike of Environmental, had a beautiful little girl on May 24. Her name is Bethany Yvonne and she weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces. Her nickname around our division is Spyder Webb.



Bethany Yvonne Webb

Mark Rickett has left our division and gone to work for a private engineering firm in Little Rock. We wish him the best of luck.

Richard Butler, and his wife Beth, traveled with some friends to Yellowstone National Park for a vacation around Labor Day. They met up with John and Debra Mathis who were also vacationing at Yellowstone. They all brought back some wonderful pictures.

Edward Reynolds and his wife, Cherrie, are expecting their first child in late January. It's supposed to be a boy!

Keith Merritt's son, Jonathon, age 10, is becoming quite an accomplished musician. He can play just about anything on the piano or organ. This picture was taken of him and his father just before he performed for the Lake Hamilton School talent show in September. Nice tux!



Jonathon and Keith Merritt

Rita Haynes wants to show off her little boy, Jared Morgan. He will be one year old in November. He is walking now and into everything. Rita and her husband, Mark, recently bought a home in Benton. Finally - more room!



Jared Haynes

Chuck Martin is getting married in December. Congratulations Chuck.

We are glad to see Claire Rita Rockwell back at work. She was hit by a car in August. Luckily for her, she was only slightly injured.

SURVEYS

Congratulations to the following employees on receiving their 5-year certificates of service: Jim Butler, Mark Glenn, Terry Gore, and Donnie Sanderson.

On October 8, the Surveys Division hosted a reception for Sue Walls, Secretary in Photogrammetry, in recognition of her completion of 30 years of service with the Department. She was joined by her husband, Buddy, and lots of friends and co-workers. Cake, punch and other refreshments were served. Everyone in the division would like to say "Congratulations Sue!"



Sue Walls and Kit Carson

TRAFFIC

Congratulations to Dale Williams, Sign Maker I, and his wife, Amy, on the birth of their daughter Ashley Marie. She was born April 29 and weighed 6 pounds, 12 ounces.

E.E. "Colonel" Bruce, Sign Crew Supervisor, retired after 23+ years of service. Colonel was given some nice fishing tackle by his fellow co-workers and is putting it to good use.



E.E. Bruce

Pictured is Sarah Diane, daughter of John Advanced Traffic Engineer, and Jacquelin Gorton. Sarah is 21 months old. When Sarah was 16 months old, she was diagnosed with leukemia. She has been undergoing chemotherapy for the last four months and is now in remission. Isn't that wonderful news!



Sarah Diane Gorton

Service awards were recently presented to several of our employees. They were: Scott Hesselbein, 15 years; Tommy Ramsey, 5 years; and Frank Dobbins, 10 years. Congratulations guys!



Allan Loring and Scotty Hesselbein



Loring and Tommy Ramsey



Charles Latture and Frank Dobbins

Gene Morrison, Sign Maker II, is shown sporting his version of the summer syle, standard issue, soft cap. It's amazing what a little cardboard can do to prevent heat stroke!



Gene Morrison

DISTRICT ONE

We extend our sympathy to the family of Harley "Gene" Crossen, one of our long time employees who passed away suddenly on September 24, from an apparent heart attack. Gene was a Finish Hydraulic Excavator Operator in the Districtwide Maintenance Crew and had been with the AHTD 28 years.

District One held its semi-final competition of the Equipment Operators' Rodeo on August 5. Our winners, who will compete in the statewide event are: Tractor Truck/Lowboy: Harold Mullins; Tandem Axle Dump Truck: Lee Hamilton; Single Axle Dump Truck: Ezra McFadden; Backhoe: Frank Smith; Tractor/Mower: Daniel Drew and Earnest Rose tied (Earnest was the 1992 state champ in this category); and Motor Patrol: Rickey Utley.

Our world traveler, Assistant Maintenance Superintendent David McFadden, and his wife, Brenda, spent two weeks during October in Okinawa, Japan. They went to visit their son, Jody, and his family, especially their grandchildren. They went to the beach, shopped a lot, and did a lot of sight seeing, and came back with lots of souvenirs and stories to tell.

DISTRICT TWO

It's always difficult to say goodbye to friends, but we parted with our fellow employees in Cleveland County on October 1 due to the Highway Department's re-districting. We

have enjoyed working with them and extend an invitation for them to come back and visit us. This change also brought new employees to District Two with the addition of Grant County. We welcome them and it has been a pleasure getting to know all of them.

Melanie Andrews, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Andrews, and Robert Ross were married in August. Wayne is the Station Attendant at the Drew County Headquarters. Congratulations to the new couple.



Melanie Andrews

Congratulations to Lois Turner, Construction Aide I in the Pine Bluff Residency. She was recently presented her 5-year service certificate by Resident Engineer Ernie Westfall.



Lois Turner

Congratulations also to David Hutchins for 15 years of service and to E.J. Mustiful for 10 years of service. Both are employees of the District Maintenance Crew.



E.J. Mustiful and David Hutchins

Debbie Pruitt is shown receiving gifts from her friends at the District Headquarters during her kitchen shower. She recently experienced a kitchen fire and her fellow employees wanted to help her out. Debbie is the Crew Leader of the Jefferson County Maint. Crew.



Debbie Pruitt

William Hubbell has been telling us about his pepper plants and we didn't believe him, so he brought a limb from one of his plants. We believe him now! William is a guard at the District Headquarters.



William Hubbell

DISTRICT FOUR

Service awards this quarter include: Don Creech, 30 years; David Dodd, Bob Ferrari, and LeRoy Smith, 20 years; Gary Greene and Charlie Parrish, 15 years. Congratulations!



Don Creech



Aubrey Bowen and David Dodd



Bob Ferrari and Aubrey Bowen



LeRoy Smith and Aubrey Bowen



Gary Greene



Mark Williams and Charlie Parrish

We welcome some new employees to the district. They are: Harold Matheny, Sr., District Caretaker; Dianna Matcalf and Brad Powell, General Laborers in Scott County; Lisa Vaughn, General Laborer, Logan County; Margaret Johnston and Marcus Waltman, General Laborers, Crawford County; and Mark Trickey, Engineering Technician at the Waldron Residency.

Mark came to the Waldron Resident Engineer's Office in May and on June 19, his son, Drake Edward, was born. Mark and his wife, Leslie, also have a daughter, Brittany, age 3.



Drake Edward Trickey

Congratulations are also in order for Joe Uselton and his wife, Michele, on the birth of their daughter, Rebecca, on July 12. They have another daughter, Ashley, age 3. Joe is a Vegetation Controller at Sebastian II.



Rebecca Uselton

Willie Leming, Backhoe/Front End Loader Operator at Lincoln, and his wife, Lynne, are the proud parents of Dakota Ryan, born February 13.

H.L. and Barbara Henry are the proud grandparents of Skylar Cheyenne. She was recently named Little Miss Tiny Tot at the Scott County Fair. Hershel is Area Maintenance Supervisor in Polk County.



Dakota Ryan Leming



Skylar Cheyenne

DISTRICT FIVE

It's beginning to look and feel a lot like Autumn here in the beautiful foothills of the Ozark Mountains.

Congratulations to our service award recipients. Those pictured earning 20-year awards are: Terry Sipes, Winfred Reed, Michael Lackey, and Kermit Gay. Also pictured are Fred Heyde, 25 years; Ron Hedges, 30 years; and Leroy Swink, 35 years.



District 5 Engineer Jim Chaney and Winfred Reed



Terry Sipes



Michael Lackey



Kermit Gay



Ron Hedges and Fred Heyde



Leroy Swink

Susan Renee Pearson and Joel Royce Tester were married in a candlelight ceremony at the First United Methodist Church in NLR August 21. The bride is the daughter of Brenda Taylor, District Fuel Clerk. As is clearly visible by the photo, Renee was a beautiful bride.



Susan Renee (Pearson) Tester

District Engineer Jim Chaney and his wife, Shirley, are glad to have Karen's family back in Batesville as of June of this year. Karen recently passed her State Board Examination and is pursuing her nursing career at White River Medical Center here in Batesville.

Paul and Sandra Gori of Petersburg, West Virginia, have announced the birth of a son on July 7. The baby weighed 8 pounds, 5 ounces and has been named Jonathan Paul. Grandparents are James and Marilyn Coffman. Marilyn is the District 5 Office Manager.

Because of car trouble along State Highway 5 into Calico Rock, a small coin purse became detached from the car keys and wasn't noticed until later. Returning to the scene where the driver felt he no doubt lost the purse, he walked along the stretch searching the sides of the highway for the lost purse. Willis Morehead, Motor Patrol Operator on the Izard County Crew, passed at the exact time. Noticing the activity, Willis stopped to assist. The other side of the story was, Willis had found a coin purse containing \$200 cash and a ladies \$400 ring, at that spot along the highway earlier and turned the lost item in to the Highway Department office. The description of the lost and identifiable items matched exactly causing the reuniting of the two.

The summer of 1993 was a very good one for John Falwell. Baseball started with high school play in March and continued on until the end of Pony League the last week of July. He was in the high school pitching rotation and did very well as a rookie. The best was a perfect game at Cross County.

In Pony League play he was the starting ace for Bald Knob. He compiled a record of 52 innings pitched with 76 strike outs and 21 walks. He hit only 2 batters during the 52 innings. Control was one of his best assets. The Pony League at Bald Knob finished third in their league and second in the post season tournament at Des Arc.

During this tournament John had another perfect game against Judsonia. His batting average for the season was .348 with an average of 4 stolen bases per game and was only thrown out twice during the year by, believe it or not, the same pitcher.

John plans to play high school ball during the spring and Legion ball during the summer until graduation in 1996, and then hopefully go to the collegiate level. John is the son of Rose Ann and Mike Falwell of Bald Knob. Mike is the Office Tech at Jim Leggett's Residency in Batesville.

Andrew Sidney Covey was born March 11, weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces. His parents are Raymond and Karen Covey. They are also the parents of Cathy (Covey) Heathscott, who was married to Norman Heathscott on September 19 at the home of R.L. and Phyllis Heathscott. Best wishes to Cathy and Norman. Raymond is an inspector in the Swink Residency at Searcy.



Andrew Sidney Covey



Cathy (Covey) and Norman Heathscott

Bryant Cain, Single Axle Truck Driver on the White County Crew at Searcy, and his wife, Leasa, are the proud parents of these two cuties. Bryant II is 20 months old and Andrew is 4 months old.



Bryant II and Andrew Cain

DISTRICT SIX

On July 29, Safety Awards were presented to the following crews for having no lost time personal injuries for 1992: Johny Cheek, Lonoke County Maintenance Crew; Junior Carter, Saline County Maintenance Crew; Felix Hall, Sealing Crew (2 consecutive years); and Bill Crumpton, Garland County Maintenance Crew. Congratulations to all for keeping safety first!



**Safety Award Recipients:
Cheek, Carter, Hall, Crumpton**

Ray Davis and Frazier Mosby, two Prairie County employees, were presented their 5-year service award from Prairie County Area Maintenance Supervisor Lamar Coyle. Congratulations.



Ray Davis and Frazier Mosby

Scott M. Venable, son of Jeff and Debbie Venable, was recently awarded Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America. The Eagle rank is the highest that can be achieved.

Scott is 16 and a junior at Lakeside High School in Hot Springs. He is an honor student and a member of several clubs. Scott has been scouting for 9 years, attending several summer camps and 2 national jamborees. He is currently the Senior Patrol Leader for Troop 2 and the Lodge Chief for the Ouachita Area Council Order of the Arrow.

Scott's parents and his younger brother are in scouting. Jeff is an Advanced Construction Field Engineer in the Hot Springs RE Office.

At a September meeting in the Hot Springs RE Office, service awards were presented to the following employees: Donnie Parish, John Wehunt, and Steve Morgan, 15 years; and Jerry Atchley, 5 years. We are proud of these men for their fine work for the Department.



Parish, Wehunt and Atchley

DISTRICT SEVEN

This handsome young man is Cody Edward Stell, born March 25, at Ouachita County Hospital in Camden. He and his parents, Gary Don and Belinda Stell, live in Fordyce. Proud grandparents are Billy G. Gilbert, Vegetation Controller in Calhoun County, and his wife, Frances, and Shelba Stell and the late Harry Stell of Fordyce.



Cody Edward Stell

DISTRICT EIGHT

Congratulations to those who received service awards at a recent supervisor's meeting. Pictured are (front) Dennis Langston, 10 years; Al Hunt, 15 years; Ronnie Putman, 20 years; Donnie Duvall, 20 years; and James Washington, 20 years. (Back) Gary Long, 10 years; Steve Sheets, 10 years; Kenneth Jones, 15 years; Danny Bradford, 20 years; Timothy Honeycutt, 15 years; Marvin Whorton, 20 years; and Connie Harper, 15 years.

Also receiving service awards were James McFerran, Billy Henry and Floyd Cates, 25 years; and Thomas Daily, 30 years.



District 8 Service Award Recipients



McFerran, Henry, Cates and Dally

Jennifer Buchanan was crowned the Dover High School Homecoming Queen. She is a senior at Dover High School and the daughter of Kenneth and Karen Buchanan. Kenneth is the District Fuel Clerk.



Jennifer Buchanan

Bill Henry is pictured with his Grand Champion Roses of the 1993 Pope County Fair. The roses actually belong to his wife, Retta. She also received ten 1st Place and five 2nd Place ribbons. At last count, Retta and Bill have 73 hybrid rose bushes.



Bill Henry and Grand Champion Roses

DISTRICT NINE

Our sympathy to Kay Fulton and family on the death of her father, Ed Drennan, who passed away September 21. Kay is the wife of District Engineer Ralph Fulton.

Congratulations to Melvin Raney, Assistant Storeroom Supervisor, who received his 10-year service award. His co-workers took

this time to recognize him with by serving coffee and doughnuts.



Melvin Raney

Jack Pharis, Crew Leader in Carroll County, is shown with his very first turkey, a real nice 22-lb. gobbler with an 11+ inch beard. This prize was bagged during the spring. Say Jack - when can we expect turkey dinner!



Jack Pharis

Marcia Holt, District Bookkeeper, and Ted Roberts were married August 14 and spent a wonderful week honeymooning in Las Vegas, Nevada. From the pictures, and Marcia's description, they had a great time. Marcia even tried her luck with the "one armed bandits," but said she didn't come home any richer or poorer than when she left. Congratulations to the new couple and best wishes for a long and happy life together.



Marcia and Ted Roberts

This young man is A.B. Danial E. Wyatt, son of Floyd and Linda Wyatt of Green Forest. Danial joined the Air Force in August 1992 on the Delayed Enlistment Program and finished his senior year of high school in May 1993. In July, he left for Lackland Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas, where he is in Technical Training as an Aero Space Propulsion Specialist. Danial's father, Floyd, is a Vegetation Controller in the Carroll County Crew.



Danial E. Wyatt

DISTRICT TEN

Those receiving service awards were: August: Michael Tarry, 5 years; David Pratt, 10 years; Loyce Brown, Larry Shirley and John Allison, 15 years. September: Billy Mitchell, Millard Miles, James Adams, Curtis Brownlee and Jimmy McKnight, 5 years. October: Nina Maclin, 5 years; and Garry Toombs, 20 years. Recipients of service awards were recognized with coffee and doughnuts on October 7 following the presentations.



District 10 Service Award Recipients

District Ten is proud of all the contestants that participated in the Equipment Operators' Rodeo and wishes we could put everyone's picture in the magazine. However, these two diligent workers were so "picture perfect" that we chose to show you how Penny Allen, SATD, and John Allison, Sr. Mechanic, maneuvered the machines they were operating during the Rodeo. Penny didn't seem to have much trouble with her tractor, although it looked as

if John was having a bit of trouble, it was actually the wind knocking over the obstacle course. We appreciate Duane Sowell, Kathy Ratcliffe and Sharon Sullivan, from Little Rock, taking time to work with the Rodeo contestants. Although the rain did put a damper on things, they handled the situation professionally.

First place category winners from District Ten were: Lowboy, Jesse Doughty; Single Axle Dump Truck, Carl Imler; Motor Patrol, Burly Ludwig; Backhoe, Rick Hale; Tractor Mower, Steve Shaver; and Tandem Axle, Brad Fultz. It takes a lot of skill to perform the different operations these employees had to do. Congratulations to each of them.



Penny Allen on tractor



John Allison

Congratulations to Carl White, Lead Person for the Walnut Ridge Headquarters. Carl is Captain of the Walnut Ridge Fire Department and has been selected by the Arkansas Firefighters Association as "Firefighter of the Year". Carl has been a volunteer firefighter since 1968 and has served as captain for the past 8 years. He is the first member of the department to be named State Firefighter of the Year. We never realize how much these people do until we have an emergency situation that involves ourselves or our family. Keep up the good work Carl!

Congratulations to Hanna Turner, age 4, the daughter of Carmen Turner and granddaughter of Melba and Howard Beaton. Hanna was named Little Miss Liberty Bell at the Marmaduke 4th of July picnic. One glance at her picture and you can see why she is a winner, she is a darling little girl.

Pictured is Laura Lady, who was chosen Junior Maid for Homecoming at Walnut Ridge

High School. Laura is the daughter of Harold and Susan Lady. Harold is the Area Maintenance Supervisor for Lawrence County.



**Carl White
State Firefighter of the Year**



Hanna Turner



Laura Lady

This handsome young man is Cory Mac Porter, son of Crystal Porter and grandson of John and Betty Porter. John is the District Permit Officer and has some interesting stories to tell about this youngster. I'm not sure, but by the looks of the picture, he may be a young Razorback fan!



Cory Mac Porter

District 10 is very proud to have a chance to recognize one of its employees, Jerry Reeves, Rest Area Attendant for the Coming Rest Area. Jerry was commended by Mrs. Emma Owen of Sikeston, Missouri, after finding four diamond rings she had left at the rest area by mistake. Mrs. Owens was literally jumping for joy when contacted by the Arkansas Tourist Information Center that her lost rings had been found. We have had nothing but praise for Jerry and we would like to take this time to say that employees like Jerry make the Highway Department in District 10 a pleasant place to work. Good work Jerry!





HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

from

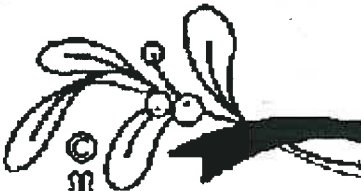
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