

# PALMETTO CASTLE

Fall 2013 Volume 5/Issue 4





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Cover and back photos provided by Steve Brown, Fox Audiovisual  
 On the cover L-R; Sec. of Transportation Anthony Fox, Brig. Gen. Donald Jackson, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers SAD, Vice President Joe Biden, Jim Newsome, President, South Carolina State Ports Authority

The Palmetto Castle is a quarterly unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1 under supervision of the Corporate Communications Office. Editorial views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Corps of Engineers or the Department of Defense. Inquiries, comments and requests for electronic copies can be forwarded to the editor of the Palmetto Castle by e-mail to :  
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News Magazine of the U.S. Army  
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# From the Commander

Greetings! Time flies, it's hard to believe I have been in command for three months and we are now in Fiscal Year 2014. The District had another amazing year and I am so proud of the entire team's accomplishments in 2013. Please make sure you see our "FY13: By the Numbers" chart on page 10 which highlights some of this past year's successes.

I am continually impressed with how customer-focused this District is, even in very trying times. In all of my initial customer meetings, I have received positive feedback about the work our District accomplishes. Our team's poise and professionalism during the furloughs this summer and through the government shutdown is to be commended. I admire how they have remained dedicated to the mission and to our customers during this difficult time.

The District's Post 45 feasibility study continues to move forward on schedule and within budget. We have finished all of the physical sampling and data collection required to produce the draft report and Environmental Impact Study by next summer. The recent visit by the Vice President reinforced the importance of this deepening project to the nation. Without the help of the project sponsor, the South Carolina State Ports Authority, and all of our interagency partners, this study's progress to date would not be possible.

I have had a chance to visit all of the District's field offices and meet most employees. The regulatory branch has done a great job of getting me into the field and showing me first-hand how they strive to balance development and the impacts to our environment. I attended the community meeting for Haile Gold Mine's permit application and was impressed with the level of expertise displayed by the team to properly address the scope of issues involved in this particular permit application. They are an outstanding group of professionals.

After touring current and future construction sites at Fort Jackson, I am in awe of the team's focus to deliver high quality construction and services in a timely manner to improve the facilities for our Army's newest Soldiers. This team is making an impact on the training and readiness of these Soldiers every day.

The list of great first impressions I have gained from spending time with all of our other divisions goes on and on and touches every office of the District.



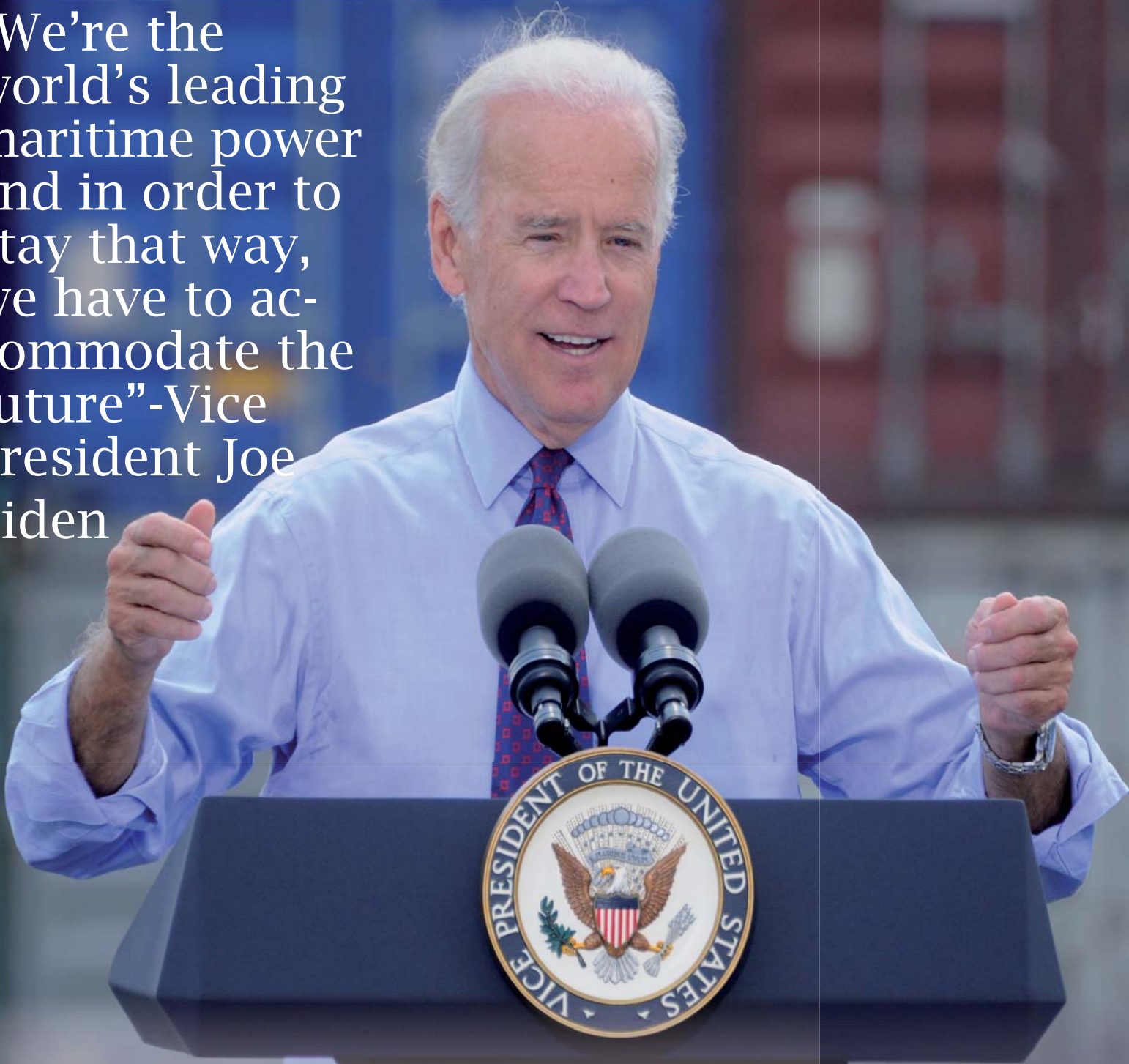
Please remember our forward-deployed teammates, the Palmetto Patriots, that continue to support our nation while they are separated from their family and friends. We look forward to hearing about their experiences and wish them a safe return.

Thank you to all of our customers for the opportunity to serve you this past year. We recently launched our military customer survey and I value your feedback, including ways we can improve our service to you. We will continue discussing new work opportunities with our interagency partners and customers and that is a direct result of the District's desire to provide the highest quality service and the best value possible. Despite continued budgetary uncertainty, the Charleston District workload looks stable for the next three years and our workforce is the right size to execute the work.

John T. Litz, PMP  
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Commander and District Engineer  
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“We’re the world’s leading maritime power and in order to stay that way, we have to accommodate the future”-Vice President Joe Biden



Photos provided by Steve Brown, Fox Audiovisual

Left to right: Sec. of Transportation Anthony Fox; U.S. Rep. James Clyburn; U.S. Rep. Mark Sanford; S.C. Gov. Nikki Haley; Charleston Mayor Joe Riley



Palmetto Castle







By: Glenn Jeffries

Secret service, police, security check points, lots of media, four politicians, one Army general, the Secretary of Transportation, the Vice President and approximately 150 guests made for a very exciting day for the Charleston District and its cost share sponsor, the South Carolina State Ports Authority. Vice President Joe Biden came to town as part of his tour of ports along the eastern sea-board.

The Charleston Harbor was identified last summer as one of the seven nationally significant infrastructure projects that needed to be expedited as part of President Obama's "We Can't Wait" initiative. Being at the forefront of the Corps' national civil works transformation, the District has been able to modernize and streamline the Charleston Harbor Post 45 Feasibility Study planning process to produce a final report faster and at a lower cost.

"It has been the most exciting and challenging project of my career," said Brian Williams, Post 45 project manager. "This day provided additional emphasis to the project delivery team of how important this project is to the nation."





Photos and article by: Sean McBride

It was a packed house when nearly 400 residents of Kershaw, S.C., and Lancaster County, S.C., piled into the Andrew Jackson Recreation Center to hear about the latest developments in the Haile Gold Mine permit process and voice their concerns and questions to representatives of the Charleston District.

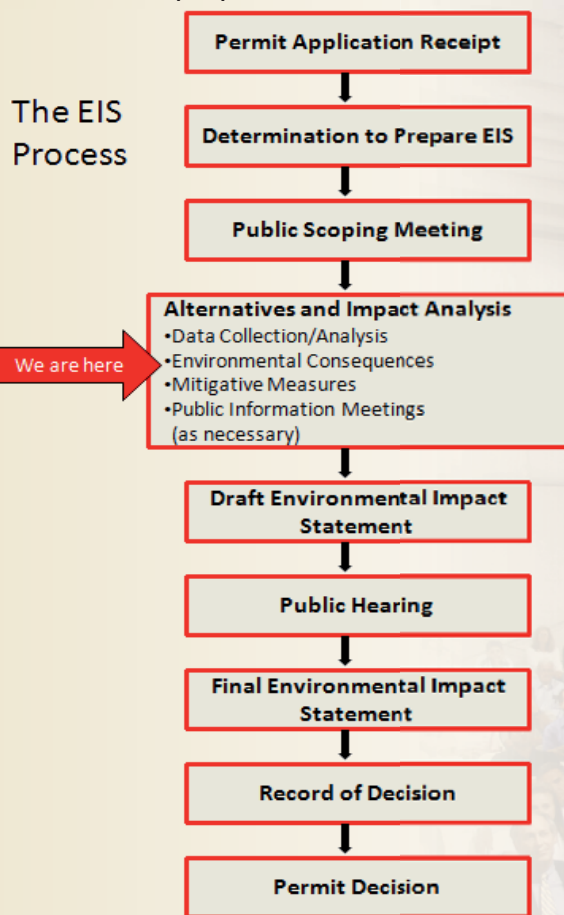
The community meeting began with an hour long meet-and-greet session where residents were able to talk with representatives from the District and other agencies about the project. Here, the Corps debuted a new interactive, graphic presentation of the proposed mine plan and its environmental effects. The map, available at [www.HaileGoldMineEIS.com](http://www.HaileGoldMineEIS.com), takes users through the various elements of the mine during different stages of the proposed 14-year mining project. The map shows the proposed site as it appears now and what differences there would be each year if the project is approved. The map also has user-friendly pop-out boxes with explanations of each element of the project.

After the meet-and-greet session, Dr. Richard Darden, project manager and biologist, led a presentation on the District's alternatives analysis report, progress on groundwater modeling work, and schedule milestones for the remainder of the project. The applicant's July 2013 revised mitigation plan to compensate for losses of wetlands and streams at the gold mine site prompted comment and questions from many attending the meeting. The plan proposes acquiring three ecologically important tracts of land, Rainbow Ranch in Lancaster County and Cooks Mountain and Goodwill Plantation in Richland County, for donation to the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources' Natural Heritage Program.

"The proposed plan is unusual, but not unprecedented," said Darden. "Haile Gold Mine proposes a large-scale project with significant impacts, which may necessitate the need to look beyond the local watershed for compensation."

Darden stressed that the proposed mitigation plan is only in the review stage now. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement, scheduled for release in March 2014, will address the entire project's impacts as well as mitigation plans.

At the project's first public meeting, in October 2011, residents asked for future meetings that would help explain the process along the way. While not a legal requirement, this community meeting was held as an extra effort to keep the public informed about the project and the Corps' process.



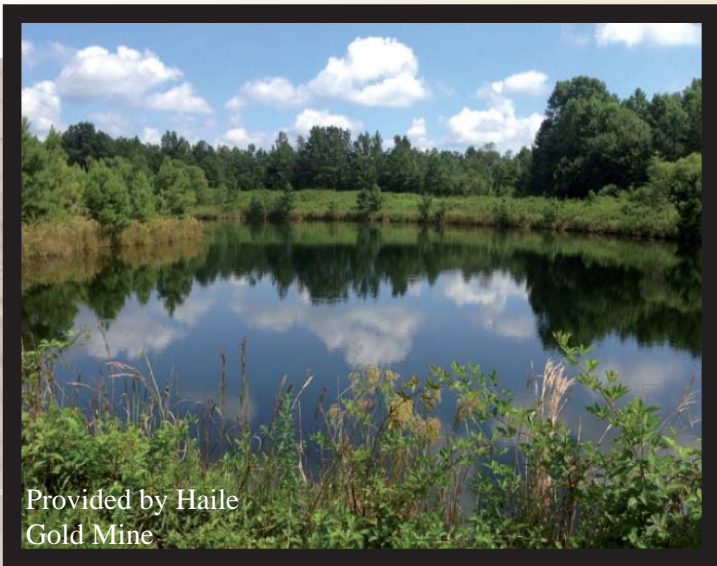
Opposite left: Alison Uno of Cardno Entrix, the District's third-party contractor, shows local residents the new interactive graphic presentation of the proposed mine plan and its environmental effects during the meet-and-greet session.

Opposite right: John Robinson (far right) of Cardno Entrix discusses project updates with local residents during the meet-and-greet session.

Opposite middle left: The proposed plan includes leaving three out of eight excavated mine pits as pit lakes, such as this one.

Opposite right: Dr. Richard Darden leads a presentation on the Haile Gold Mine project before answering questions from the community.







# Saving Edisto

Photos and article by: Sara Corbett

Imagine if you are at your favorite beach and every-day nearly 40 dump trucks haul the sand away from the beach, which equates to approximately 14,400 dump trucks of sand a year. That is a lot of sand.

Something similar to that is happening at Edisto Beach. Each year 144,000 cubic yards of sand is washed away with the waves at the beach and nearshore, creating major erosion which endangers structures and the main evacuation route on the quaint island.

Reducing the impacts from storm related erosion is exactly what the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District project delivery team members discussed with the residents and city council members of the Town of Edisto Beach in late summer.

At the request of the Town of Edisto Beach, the Charleston District stepped-up to help and signed a cost-sharing agreement with the town in 2006. Since then, the District has completed an extensive draft environmental assessment and feasibility report under the Coastal Storm Damage Reduction Study and provided a recommendation.

The plan includes constructing a dune and berm and lengthening existing groins.

The first section of dune would be nearly a mile long, 14 feet high and 15 feet wide, and starts at the southwest end of the beach. This is followed by a three mile long section of dune that is 15 feet high and 15 feet wide.

The four mile long beach consists of a dune and berm extending in width from 50 feet to 75 feet at groin number one located at the north end of the project. In total, 23 existing groins would be lengthened by 1,130 feet and the beach would be renourished every eight years.

If everything goes according to plan, the construction could be completed by winter 2019. But several things have to happen prior to construction even beginning, including appropriation and authorization from the U.S. Congress. In spring 2014, the draft feasibility study will be sent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Chief of Engineers for his signature. Following that it would be up to the U.S. Congress to authorize and appropriate the project.

The residents and city council members of the Town of Edisto were thrilled with the Corps' presentation and gave a standing ovation at the end of the meeting.

"[We] were well pleased with the Corps interest in our community and felt that Edisto was a part of the Corps' mission" said Mayor Burley Lyons.



Left-Dudley Patrick, project manager, addresses residents of Edisto Beach.

Opposite top-These show the rising water levels and the threat they pose to homes. Opposite middle-One of the groins that is proposed to be lengthened.

Opposite bottom left-Lt. Col. John Litz, District Commander, meets with Mayor Burley Lyons and Iris Hill, Edisto Town administrator, about the proposed project.



# Beach



Provided by the Town of Edisto Beach





# FY13: BY THE NUMBERS

**\$262,000,000**

Total Expenditures

**576** contracting actions  
=**\$164** million in new  
contract awards!

**37** projects worth **\$8.1** mil  
awarded for Sustainment,  
Restoration and Maintenance support  
at Joint Base Charleston

**54.1%**  
of contracts awarded to  
small businesses:  
Small Disadvantaged-  
24.8%  
Women-Owned- 16.9%  
HUBZone- 18.6%

**5**  
physical data studies  
conducted and completed  
for the Charleston Harbor  
Post 45 Feasibility Study  
Palmetto Castle



**16**

STEM (science, technology,  
engineering and math)  
outreach events conduct-  
ed throughout the state

**438,000**

American Shad and Blue-  
back Herring passed at  
the St. Stephen fish lift

**142** YEARS  
and  
counting...

Fort Jackson Projects:

Constructed-  
**7** for **\$36.8** million

Underway-  
**16** for **\$233.1** million

Awarded-  
**3** for **\$50.9** million

**4.6**

out of

**5**

average score from the  
annual Civil Works and  
Military Construction  
customer surveys



**1**

Order of the Palmetto issued  
to former District Commander  
Lt. Col. Ed Chamberlayne by  
Gov. Nikki Haley



# Regulatory

**502** general permits issued

**74** individual permits issued

**1,047** jurisdictional determinations completed

**237** non-compliance/enforcement cases resolved

**1** Leadership Charleston 2013 graduate

selected for Class of 2014

**7**

people currently deployed to Afghanistan being supported by the Family Readiness Network

**103**

media engagements

**\$35,437.42**

donated by

**91**

people to the Combined Federal Campaign

**75** contract actions

worth **\$60.1** million for Interagency and International Support Customers



**310**

pounds of food donated through Feds Feed Families

Hired **28** new people

**6** retired

**9** left for other opportunities

**4** student interns

Hosted **1** Army Cadet



Visits- **69,376**

Pageviews- **868,502**

**392**



"Likes"

**1,639**



Followers

For full details on these and all of the District's accomplishments during Fiscal Year 2013, please visit [www.sac.usace.army.mil](http://www.sac.usace.army.mil)



**34**

Certified Professional Engineers serving in the Charleston District

**2,960**

hours that

**63**

employees were furloughed

**100%**

COMMITTED

to the

MISSION





## Inspection of Completed Works: Why Maintaining Projects is Important

Photos and article by: Dudley Patrick

A little-known and little-understood program at the Charleston District is known as “Inspection of Completed Works.” But what is it, and more importantly, why do we do it?

The District has been a presence in South Carolina since the late 1800’s and has been responsible for civil engineering projects both small and large. Many are familiar with projects like the previous deepening of Charleston Harbor and the maintenance that has been going on for more than 140 years. Other projects throughout the state, including flood control and ecosystem restoration, may be lesser known to people who do not live near them, but nonetheless provide valuable benefits to the state and the nation.

After each of these projects is built, what’s left to do? Remember, the federal government and the project’s sponsor spent a lot of money to complete the project. Because so much has been invested, it is prudent to ensure the projects are being adequately maintained. And that’s where the ICW program comes in.

Each year, the District will inspect up to 24 completed federal projects. Projects need to be well maintained not only so they provide the expected benefits but also so these projects can be eligible for federal funds to repair the project if it is damaged by a natural disaster. Of the projects inspected, the majority are well-maintained by the sponsor.

Occasionally, sponsors fail to keep their project in good working condition. These projects are put on notice to bring it back up to standard within a reasonable amount of time. If not done, the District can move in to correct the condition at the sponsor’s expense. Fortunately, this does not happen very often.

“The ICW program also provides the avenue to allow sponsors to do work near or within the existing projects. There are Army regulations that apply whenever government funds are expended to ensure that changes to a completed project will not adversely affect its function and that the project works as designed for its lifespan,” said Lisa Metheny, assistant chief of programs and project management. “The District receives several requests a year for proposed projects along completed federal project footprints.”

Annual inspections provide intangible benefits as well. When the District meets with the sponsors each year, it demonstrates in a visible way to the public that we stand behind our work, and that we take stewardship of government and sponsor funds seriously. These visits also give the District the opportunity to look out and listen for additional problems and issues that local governments are having with water and water related resources, and identify if the Corps can assist in reducing or eliminating these problems in the future.

So despite being relatively unknown, the ICW keeps federal projects maintained and working properly, something that benefits everyone.





Opposite- Dudley Patrick inspecting erosion under a bridge upstate S.C.

Top left- At Lake Marion, shoreline protection is showing signs of failure due to severe weather. The non-federal sponsor is aware of the failure and is working on a solution.

Top right- Patrick and Greg Lynch, Director of SC DNR's Santee Coastal Reserve, in McClellanville, SC, inspect a rice trunk on Murphy Island. These structures are based on designs which have been in use for 200 years on rice plantations along the SC coast.

Bottom left- A poorly maintained channel in a small coastal town. Non-federal sponsors often cite lack of local funds and a scarcity of suitable maintenance equipment as primary reasons for poor maintenance. The District continues to stress the need for proper maintenance to preserve the project for its intended design lifespan.

Bottom right- A well-maintained shoreline stabilization project at Drayton Hall Plantation near Charleston protects walking trails and historic structures.

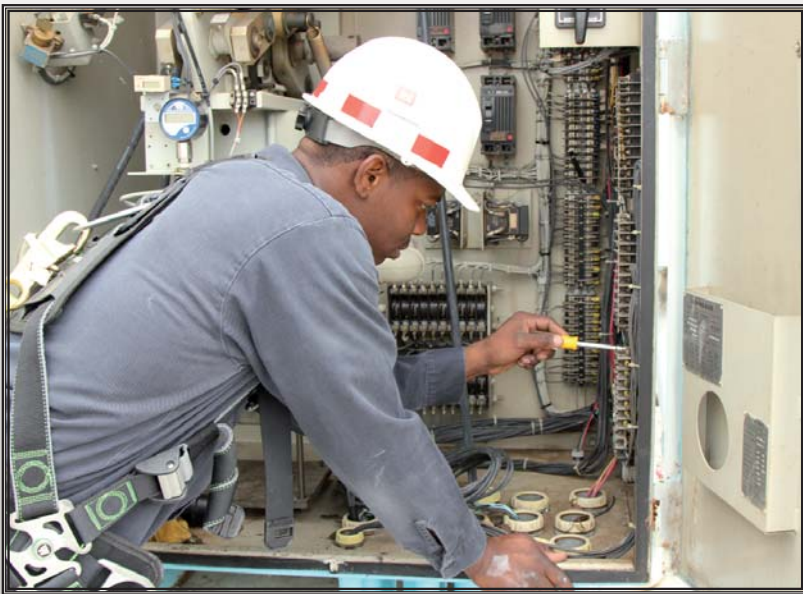
Right- Tommy Socha, civil engineering technician, with Kathleen Kelly, representative of Horry County, inspect dune vegetation that was planted to provide shore protection at Garden City and Surfside Beach.







**Ed Davis**



# The First Two

Photos and article by: Sara Corbett

When Joe Reasoner and Ed Davis enrolled in Trident Technical College, they didn't know each other, they had never heard of the Charleston District and were completely unaware of the District's newly established Student Career Experience Program that was about to change their lives.

After five years in the military, Reasoner decided it was time to go back to school and pursue a degree in Electronic Engineering Technology. Once in the TTC program, one of his professors encouraged him to apply for the electrician SCEP, knowing the opportunities this would open for his student.

"I enrolled in TTC for an electronic engineering degree because that is what I had done in the U.S. Army," said Reasoner. "I had experience in it and enjoyed it."

Davis always knew he wanted to be an electrician, so he enrolled in the Industrial and Automation Electrical Application program at TTC. Davis came by the program by

Palmetto Castle

chance. He saw a flier hanging in a hallway at TTC and decided to apply because he knew it would be a great fit for him professionally.

"My father told me I should learn a trade and electricity really interested me," said Davis. "So becoming an electrician was an obvious choice for me."

The dynamic duo were the first to start the program at the Charleston District's St. Stephen Powerhouse and Dam on September 15, 2008 and the first to finish it on June 13, 2013.

SCEP is offered throughout the federal government as a way for students actively pursuing a career to receive on-the-job training and to provide agencies with high-caliber students to fill permanent positions.

"SCEP is a win-win situation for everyone," said Brian Wells, chief of operations. "There were several openings at the St. Stephen Powerhouse, but instead of open recruitment, the District decided to use SCEP to build up young craftsmen with the hopes of retaining them long-term."





# o Standing



**Joe Reasoner**



Since the program was new to the Charleston District, there was no set training plan, so training consisted of computer classes, reading manuals and mechanical and electrical blueprints, and the help of senior employees.

“We read a lot, but there were always senior employees around that would help to answer our questions,” said Reasoner. “Several other employees at the powerhouse had gone through the program in other Districts and they provided input and were great mentors.”

The rigorous four-year program is broken into phases with an oral exam every six months, and prepping for the exams was no small feat.

“Everyone in the plant would do mock exams with us,” said Davis. “Everyone here helped us through this program.”

They both agreed that the biggest challenges they faced were working full-time, taking classes and studying for the exams.

“It made for long days and lots of sacrifices. Most days I would get to work at 7:00 a.m. and not get home until 10:00 p.m. that night,” said Reasoner. “One time I had three finals and an oral exam to study for, it was a lot to handle, but it was worth it in the end.”

Now that they are graduates of the program, they have big plans. Part way through the program, Reasoner switched from electrical engineering to mechanical engineering and he plans to continue to work towards his mechanical engineering degree. Davis is pursuing an engineering degree through TTC and The Citadel.

They both are preparing for their respective senior qualification’s next year, which will require them to shadow the current senior staff, review plant material, safety material and all the different aspects of management.

Since the first class of SCEP was such a success, the District has decided to continue the program and is nearly complete with the selection process for the second class. Reasoner and Davis will be excellent mentors for the new trainees!





# A Real Life Paradise

come to our house for dinner and know that their salad was picked half an hour ago.”

Hordnes’ farm is 100 percent natural, but not organic. What’s the difference? They don’t use hormones, pesticides or steroids, and all of the feed is natural. But getting the label of “organic” is an extensive process and costs thousands of dollars a year.

“It doesn’t really matter to me,” says Hordnes. “I know that all my stuff is all-natural and anyone can come take a look at it.”

They named the farm “Paradise Acres,” because as Hordnes puts it, you look over the property and “it’s just paradise.”

Paradise Acres is the birthplace of produce, chicken eggs, bees and more, on a

year-round basis, thanks to the greenhouses that have been installed on the property. Hordnes is the “labor force” at the farm, but knows he couldn’t do it alone.

“I’m the labor force, and Denise is the business force,” says Hordnes. “But she does a lot of labor too. She does the morning chores and I do the evening chores.”

But what does that entail? Hordnes gets to Fort Jackson by 5:30 a.m. every day so that he can leave early in the day to then spend 3-4 hours working at the farm. He usually only picks produce once a week, but he’s always working to make new gardens, fix fences, clean chicken coops, or whatever else needs to be done.

Over the years, the operation has expanded from just growing their own fruits and vegetables to selling approximately 80 percent of their produce at the local market.

“We have a lot of standing orders from people,” says Hordnes. “Denise even makes gluten-free pastries that get cleaned out in the first hour at the market.”

By: Sean McBride

Thomas Jefferson once wrote, “Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will, in the end, contribute most to real wealth, good morals, and happiness.”

Farmers around the country may look at this quote differently, but it’s pretty clear that Tom Hordnes is taking the “happiness” part to heart.

“It’s a whole different world,” says Hordnes. “Everything is yours. You planted it, you grew it. It’s nice to go out there and see everything that you have done actually growing and then eat it off the vine.”

Hordnes is a quality assurance representative with the Charleston District’s Fort Jackson Resident Office who spends his days ensuring construction projects are up to code. He started his 21-acre farm with his girlfriend, Denise, in the spring of 2010 with a simple goal to have self-sustainment.

“There’s a big movement for natural foods,” says Hordnes. “For us, it’s five minutes from the garden to the table. People

Palmetto Castle



Photos provided by Tom Hordnes.

Opposite-Hordnes holds a peacock.

Right-The peacock fanning his tail.

Middle left-Radishes picked fresh off the farm.

Middle right-Chickens roam freely through the farm.

Bottom Right-The goats being fed.



Hordnes is a graduate of Clemson University's Beginning Farmer Program and now takes interns from across the United States to help out on the farm.

"Students come out and work the farm and learn about the different animals and what it takes to keep them healthy," says Hordnes. "They learn about the different types of soil for the produce and even learn the business end of it. They learn that if you're producing a certain amount and it costs a certain amount, you have to sell it for certain amount to make a profit."

As Hordnes' business continues to grow, so does the smile on his face. He's been around farms and animals since he was young and is looking forward to the opportunity to keep doing it through his eventual retirement.

"We're both getting older, but we don't want to stop."





# MEET OUR:

Jim Carter

**James.C.Carter@usace.army.mil**

**What is your position?**  
Power (Operations) Project Manager of the Cooper River Rediversion Project in St. Stephen, S.C.

**Describe your job:**  
As the Plant Manager I am responsible for maintenance and operation of the Cooper River Rediversion Project, the three St. Stephen hydro units and the fish lift. The plant staff and I work collaboratively with Santee Cooper and South Carolina Department of Natural Resources to generate electricity for about 40,000 residents and provide fish passage for about 700,000 anadromous fish during a typical fish passing season.

**What is the most unique thing that you bring to the District?**  
As a licensed Mechanical Engineer with more than 30 years experience in the power industry, I think the most unique thing I bring to Charleston is a wealth of experience in power production facilities coupled with natural resource related experience.

**What is the most rewarding part of your job?**  
The most rewarding part of my job is seeing my staff develop into mature power plant professionals that exemplify the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers values. We all share the common goal to make St. Stephen the best hydropower project in the South Atlantic Division. Since arriving to the Charleston District, we graduated the first two power plant trainees to journeyman level employees (see page 14 for the story) and both candidates were outstanding in their field.

**Highlight a notable milestone or memory in your career.**  
One of my most notable milestones was in December 2009 when I retired from the Tennessee Valley Authority after 31 years there and accepted a position with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District. I had the privilege to work with the Corps while at TVA and had a great deal of respect for the organization. I am very proud to be a Corps employee.

**What goals do you hope to accomplish in your new position?**  
One of my primary goals is to produce positive results. I am a proponent of working efficiently, determining the root-cause and applying Project Management Business Practices theory.





# Providing Support to Deployees and Their Families



By: Narissia Skinner, Family Readiness Network coordinator

When you are deployed and your loved ones who are left behind need assistance, who can you turn to?

As the Charleston District's Family Readiness Network coordinator, my role is to provide support to deployed personnel and their families through active involvement. In doing so, I ensure that deployees and their family members have a consistent point of contact to be there for them during deployment, and that they are being contacted regularly. I give both pre- and post-deployment briefs to make sure that the deployed personnel and family members are familiar with who I am and the role that I play during deployment. Through various channels, I ensure that deployee and family concerns are directly addressed, or that they are being referred to the appropriate resources.

During the year, I develop and release materials concerning deployee and family support. Each deployee and family member gets a copy of the Palmetto Castle to keep them up to date with what's happening at home. I try to find ways to familiarize family members with the various Army community services and family support programs. A few examples of that are by including the family members in District events such as our annual Bridge Walk, and providing complimentary tickets to select Riverdogs baseball games. Each

month, we are also sending boxes, cards or emails to deployed personnel and family members to let them know that they are always in our hearts and minds.

When a deployee returns to their home station after their deployment, I coordinate post-deployment celebrations and awards, which always seem to go over really well. It's a time to honor the deployee's service, but also time to thank those that remained behind to help fill in the gaps during their absence. This celebration is as much for the District as it is for the person returning from deployment.

I also attend briefings and video teleconferences with other FRN coordinators around our Corps division. In these meetings, the FRN coordinators from each District brief about their program, and share knowledge among the network. This is a helpful forum as we all benefit and get fresh ideas to execute from each other for our deployees and family members.

The Family Readiness Program is alive and well in the Charleston District. I continue to strive to fulfill the primary purpose of keeping deployees and family members informed by being a support system that emphasizes that you are not alone. I am very humbled and proud to serve as the District's FRN coordinator and would like to thank each and every deployee and family member for their selfless service. What you do does not go un-noticed.



# “Take me out to the ballgame...”



## Military Appreciation



## Riverdogs





Charleston District employees enjoyed a fun night at the Charleston Riverdogs' Military Appreciation Night. (far left) Lt. Col. John Litz threw out the opening pitch for the game. (left) The Riverdogs' mascot, Charlie T. Riverdog, hands a bottle of water to a child. (top right) District employees had a great night at the baseball game. (right) District family members had fun with the mascot.

Photos by Dennis Franklin



# Appreciation Night





# Palmetto Happenings

## Bagging Oyster Shells

Bagging oyster shells, last month provided a great way for Charleston District employees to help the environment.

Each year, Trident United Way hosts a “Day of Caring” where volunteers work on various projects that better the Lowcountry. This year, the District’s Commander, Lt. Col. John Litz, Deputy District Engineer, Maj. John O’Brien, and Executive Secretary, Narissia Skinner, worked with the U.S. Coast Guard, South Carolina State Ports Authority and South Carolina Department of Natural Resources to bag approximately 2,200 bags of oyster shells. The bagged oyster shells will be used to make reefs that will span the coastline from Myrtle Beach to Hilton Head. They will also provide a safe haven for approximately 330,000 shell fish and will filter close to four million gallons of water, which will produce cleaner habitat in the waterways. Since the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the nation’s environmental engineer and environmental preservation is a priority, this project was the perfect fit.



## Presenting on Post 45

Since keeping the public informed about the Charleston Harbor Post 45 Feasibility Study is a priority for the Charleston District, Brian Williams provided an update to approximately 50 members of the Rotary Club of Mount Pleasant in September. He gave an overview of the project and talked about the recent rock core sampling that was done.

“Brian did a great job of breaking down the impacts of the Post 45 deepening project,” said B.V. Messervy, Rotary member. “After hearing his presentation, our Rotary Club feels confident that there is a highly competent team handling the study.”

Williams enjoyed presenting and looks forward to updating other groups on the progress of the project. If anyone is interested in having a speaker address their group about this important project, please email [CESAC-PAO@usace.army.mil](mailto:CESAC-PAO@usace.army.mil).





## Attending the Air Force Ball

Charleston District Commander Lt. Col. John Litz (right) and Deputy Commander Maj. John O'Brien (left) pose with Sen. Tim Scott at the Air Force Ball. Scott was the keynote speaker at the event pledging support for our military during times of budgetary uncertainty.



## Providing 258 meals

Despite difficult times and financial uncertainty, the Charleston District once again rose to the challenge and collected 310 pounds of food that was donated to the Lowcountry Food Bank through the Feds Feeds Families program. This donation provided 258 meals to families throughout the Lowcountry.

Feds Feeds Families is a national program that allows federal employees to donate non-perishable food to those in need in their local community. This year, the program raised more than 1.8 million pounds of food.

“During furloughs and difficult financial times, the employees of the Charleston District were able to put their troubles aside to help the community,” said Lt. Col. John Litz, District Commander. “I am very proud of the District.”





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