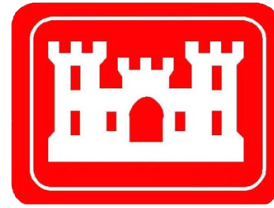




U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, CHARLESTON DISTRICT

PALMETTO CASTLE





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Sources: Esri, USGS | Sourc

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Greetings partners and stakeholders,

Spring has sprung here in Charleston, and what a great time to highlight some of the outstanding work we have been doing for South Carolina and our Nation. In this edition, you will find, among other things, that we are celebrating the completion of one project and the groundbreaking of another. As I approach the one-year mark of my time in command, I could not be prouder of the District and how the team "controls the radar!"

In April, we were excited to celebrate the "Return of the Birds" to Crab Bank with a ribbon cutting ceremony. After seven weeks of construction, the island has been fully renourished and is now full of beautiful shorebirds enjoying this prime nesting habitat (page 11). South Carolina Department of Natural Resources was an amazing non-federal partner for this beneficial-use project and literally jumped for joy when the first nesting egg was spotted (page 1).

While we are marking the completion of one project, we are excited to start another. Earlier this year, we broke ground on the Winding Woods Reach and Elevated Water Tank in Dorchester County. This project will support the new Winding Woods Industrial Park and the greater St. George area. It would not have been possible without the incredible partnerships between the Charleston District, Lake Marion Regional Water Authority, Santee Cooper and surrounding counties (page 15). Strong partnerships are key to our success.

We hosted a Military Professional Development Conference early this spring on behalf of Brig. Gen. Jason Kelly, commanding general, South Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). Over three days, my fellow military officers from the region and I heard from various speakers who imparted their wisdom and knowledge to help us become better leaders. One notable speaker was retired U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. James Livingston, recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor (page 7). Great job by Lieutenant Colonel Owens and the team for facilitating this WORLD CLASS event.

We recently welcomed Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon, 55th Chief of Engineers and Commanding General of USACE, and Jaime Pinkham, principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, to Charleston. During their visits, they met with various stakeholders and members of our District team. They saw firsthand how some of the District's top projects contribute to local, state and federal economic development and contribute to the state's growth (page 5). We even have an infographic in this issue to help you visualize how our missions all fit together (page 21).

As many of you know, we are responsible for the military construction and numerous maintenance projects at Fort Jackson. Command Sergeant Major Chad Blansett, Command Sergeant Major of the South Atlantic Division, recently toured the base to see our ongoing and completed projects — many of which will improve the basic training environment. Considering that more than half of new Army recruits are trained here, this is a mission we are incredibly proud to support (page 13).

People are the heart of our missions, so I am pleased to share a spotlight on a few of my incredible hard-working team members. Scott Glass, operations division chief and Bailey Horn, an intern supporting our GIS program, work hard to accomplish our mission and contribute to the success of our world-class organization (pages 17 and 19).

Make sure you find some time to get out and enjoy the wonderful weather and the many activities this area has to offer in spring. Maybe I will see you as my family is out and about soaking it all in.

Stay World Class!



Andrew Johannes, PMP PE PhD
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ARMY'S TOP ENGINEERING OFFICER, CIVIL WORKS LEADERSHIP VISIT CHARLESTON TO SEE PROJECT GROWTH

By Jackie Pennoyer

Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon, 55th chief of engineers and commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Jaime Pinkham, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, each made recent visits to Charleston to meet with the District team and to see firsthand how some of the District's top projects contribute to local, state and federal economic development.

In addition to seeing various locations around the city, Spellmon and Pinkham both met with South Carolina Ports leaders Jim Newsome, president and chief executive officer, and Barbara Melvin, chief operating officer, to discuss progress on the Charleston Harbor Post 45 Deepening Project, one the District's largest projects to-date.

Through complex dredging operations across nearly 50 miles, Post 45 takes Charleston Harbor depths from 45 to 52 feet and enables the world's largest container vessels to enter fully loaded, at any tide. The project began as a feasibility study in 2011 and is scheduled to wrap up dredging operations later this year.

"We're excited to see this project — the result of so many leaders and an excellent staff of engineers, project managers and experts — come together on time, and on budget," said Lt. Col. Andrew Johannes, District commander. "Charleston District has maintained this harbor every year for more than 140 years. This is more than a project. It's a legacy of leadership and innovation."

As the District prepares a final report for the Charleston Peninsula Coastal Storm Risk

Management Study, a federal feasibility study that investigates coastal storm surge risk reduction to support coastal resiliency, Spellmon and Pinkham visited several sites across the peninsula, including the Rosemont neighborhood, South Carolina Aquarium, Waterfront Park and High Battery.

Based on the current benefit-cost ratio estimate of 10.8, the study's recommendations were ranked the top design and construction priorities in the southeast by the USACE-led South Atlantic Coastal Study, a similar feasibility study that identifies sustainable efforts to promote coastal resilience across 60,000 miles of coastline from North Carolina to Mississippi.

"In the Army Corps of Engineers, our vision is to engineer solutions for the nation's toughest challenges," Spellmon said of the study. "We are certainly doing that here."

Mayor John Tecklenburg of the City of Charleston, the study's non-federal sponsor, said the four-year study has emerged as a "true partnership" and that the collaboration is an extension of the District's more than a century of service.

"Charleston District celebrated its 150th year here in Charleston, and that partnership throughout has been pretty remarkable," Tecklenburg told Spellmon during a visit between the two at the High Battery.

To conclude their trips, both Spellmon and Pinkham traveled inland to see the Ridgeway Industrial Campus, a logistics hub that will also serve as a major Walmart distribution center.

Charleston District issued a permit as part of the project, but according to Lisa Metheny, the District's head civilian, this was a great example of how District efforts and partnerships across multiple lines of effort fit together to produce major economic impacts for the state and nation.

"When people think of our deepening project at Charleston Harbor, or of our project, the Lake Marion Regional Water System, which expands access to potable water across rural areas of South Carolina, they may not immediately connect this

to an economic investment several hundred miles away," said Metheny. "It's great leadership and success in these types of projects that inspire major development and eventually support economic prosperity."

The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works establishes policy direction and provides supervision of the Department of the Army functions relating to all aspects of the Civil Works program of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. More information can be found at army.mil/asacw.



Lt. Col. Andrew Johannes (left), District commander, speaks with Lt. Gen. Scott Spellmon 55th chief of engineers and commanding general of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, prior to getting a tour of South Carolina Ports Authority.



Jaime Pinkham (left), Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, speaks with Wes Wilson, a project manager, during a visit to Charleston to meet with the District team and to see firsthand how some of the District's top projects contribute to local, state and federal economic development.

STANDING ON SHOULDERS OF THOSE WHO ENDURED: HOW A GENERATION'S MILITARY LEGACY ENHANCES READINESS

By Jackie Pennoyer

Weathered hands, crisp cuffs, a suit with a matching pocket square, and a deep blue ribbon with a medal, heavier than any metal, joined at the chest, he was seated, head tilted, eyes drawn up beneath his brow. His gaze stern. His message urgent — for America's youth.

Retired U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. James Livingston earned the medal of honor, the military's most prestigious distinction, for acts of extraordinary valor and great fortitude during the Vietnam War. On a late spring day in 1968, in the hours before sunrise, Livingston led his company through thick enemy territory into a battle of diminishing odds. They charged across more than 500 meters of rice fields and open fire. Many died. After two hours of tiring close combat, Livingston led a desperate assault to save a dwindled team of Marines surrounded on all sides.

Livingston and his men prevailed that day. It was one of the war's most significant battles, but it came at a great cost. Livingston was severely wounded. The North Vietnamese had a legion of 10,000 strong in the area, and of the 800 U.S. Marines who fought, very few went home whole.

"It was a mean scene. I won't attempt to describe it," he said. "I had a group of young 19, 20 and 21-year-old Marines. I said, 'guys, we're going to get involved in this fight. We've been playing high school ball, college ball, but this is the NFL now.'"

Livingston went on to lead an industrious 33-year career in the Marines, culminating as commander of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Since that day,

Livingston meets the next generation where they are — at events, schools and recruitment offices — to emphasize the qualities that set great leaders apart. At these events, he wears his medal for the 45 young Marines who were killed under his command.

'An engineering degree is a leadership asset'

Seated before an audience of 42 Army engineering officers and leaders who oversee the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, South Atlantic Division's complex missions of defense construction, water resource preservation and environmental restoration across the southeast, Livingston shared about his storied military career and important leadership lessons.

"In terms of advantages for a military officer, there is no better degree than engineering," said Livingston, a trained civil engineer, who graduated from Auburn University before transitioning to active service. "It teaches you about yourself, how to think through a situation, how to think in advance, thoroughly and how to engineer the desired outcome. This benefitted me greatly in combat."

The event, led by Brig. Gen. Jason Kelly, commanding general of the South Atlantic Division, was a leadership development opportunity for the southeast region's rising engineering officers and enlisted leaders to grow professionally.

Livingston acknowledged the dual-hatted challenge Corps officers face while managing critical public programs and as leaders donning "the cloth of the nation."



"I look at you as having a double duty. You've got to be a good CEO, but most of all, you've got to be a great military leader," said Livingston, adding, "always remember being in uniform comes with special responsibilities, well beyond those of a normal civilian leader."

Livingston also reminded those in the room that their missions are vital to the nation and intrinsically tied to a community's quality of life.

"Your memory in these communities will mean more than you can ever believe."

'Every day is a preparation day when you're in uniform'

The first leadership lesson Livingston shared with the group was a reminder to keep the military's

primary purpose of preserving the nation at the forefront and to reflect on what it really means to be ready.

"I had two jobs when I was a company commander in North Vietnam: to fight and to win. I trained my men hard, I made them physically fit, I pushed them hard. Because I wanted to bring them home."

Livingston encouraged the young leaders to challenge themselves every day and said that holding oneself to a heightened, demanding standard will ultimately benefit the troops who follow a leader's example.

"Never limit yourself in terms of what you can do. Every one of us can be better. If you're demanding of yourself and lead by example, you don't mind

placing those demands on those you lead. At the end of the day, you do your team a service by being demanding."

Livingston also touched on some of the differences between his time in service and the military environment that incoming service members experience today. One important difference is the need to be intellectually equipped to deal with the complexities of mass information and new technology.

'Standing on the shoulders of those who endured'

When asked about the lasting impact of the Vietnam era, Livingston said his generation's legacy is being an example to present-day military leaders and helping to preserve the job of a service member as "one of the greatest opportunities a person will ever have."

"You want to know what the legacy of the Vietnam War is? It's you. It's the commitment of those in uniform, who want to make sure the next generation of

those who serve and sacrifice is stronger and doesn't have the same experiences."

Kelly, who launched his 28-year career in 1994, a year before Livingston retired, recognizes that his "point of origin" is much better than when Livingston commissioned in 1961.

"As I walked through the airport this morning on my way here, I received a great deal of thanks for my service. In fact, the airline even called for service members to board first as a way of honoring us. This was often not the experience of those serving during the Vietnam era," said Kelly.

"That's a reflection of the respect they have for you," said Livingston. "Don't ever compromise that."

Neither Livingston nor Kelly expected to join the military — let alone pursue a full career.

"I had no intent of joining the military, but I got a little love card from Uncle Sam. Then one day a good-looking recruiter from Birmingham, Alabama showed up in his dress blues, and I said that's for me."

Kelly shared a similar journey to his current command role leading more than 5,000 service members and civilian professionals across five states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

"This is not the race I intended to run. I was an athlete, I had visions of scoring touchdowns in the Army-Navy game, but if you were to check the history of the game, there are no touchdowns by Jason Kelly. Here I stand today because I'm having fun and enjoy what I do."



U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. (retired) James Livingston (left) presents U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Jason Kelly, commander of the U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers South Atlantic Division, a signed Medal Of Honor book.

'Don't hang up your uniform or your spirit in the corner'

Every day, Livingston pays tribute to the Marines who served under and alongside him, especially those he lost.

"When you look at the medal, you always think of them, their contributions, and what they represented on the day of that battle. They gave it all. They gave their country everything they could give. And that was their life."

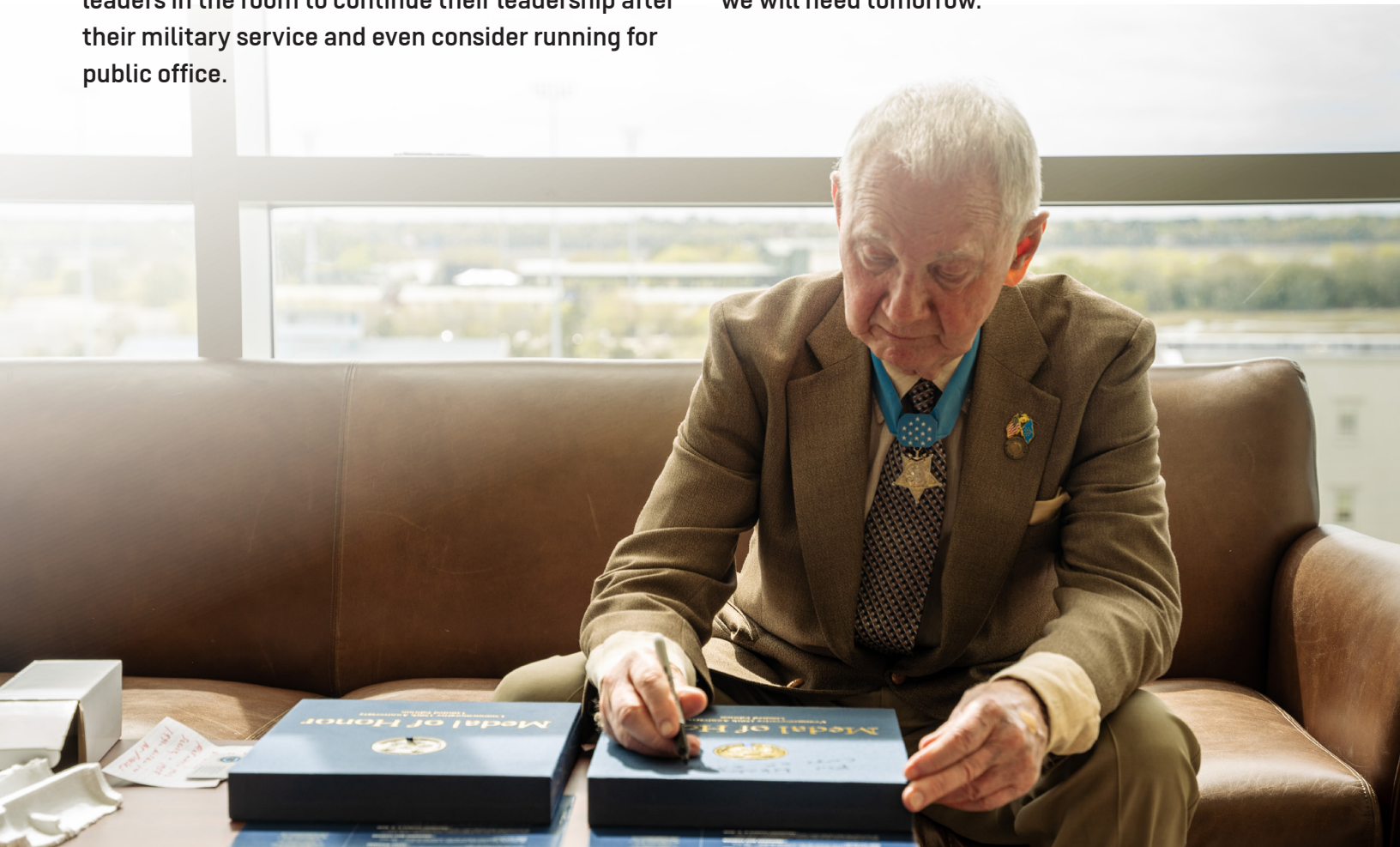
With only 66 surviving medal of honor recipients, Livingston is committed to continuing the legacy of the medal of honor. He believes the key to carrying this legacy forward and to building a strong future military rests in the hands of young people who volunteer to serve.

For Livingston, military service doesn't end when you hang up the uniform. He encouraged all the leaders in the room to continue their leadership after their military service and even consider running for public office.

"I'd like to be remembered as a United States Marine," he said "You're never out of the Marine Corps. I joined in 1961, and when they put me away, I'll still be a Marine."

In addition to a robust discussion with Livingston, the workshop also featured in-depth presentations and discussions with Charleston-area leaders, including Jim Newsome, CEO and president of the South Carolina Ports Authority, retired Marine Corps Gen. Glenn Walters, president of the Citadel, and retired Army Maj. Gen. William Grimsley, secretary of the South Carolina Department of Veterans' Affairs.

"I think the military will continue to require the best of us. I hope that this noble profession will be something the best of us choose to do," said Kelly. "I've had an incredible run, but the shadows are getting long. There are more yesterdays than there are tomorrows. I hope this gathering will help these Corps leaders be the best because that's what I think we will need tomorrow."



ADDING TO THE GALÁPAGOS OF SOUTH CAROLINA: RETURN OF SHOREBIRDS TO CRAB BANK WORTHY OF CELEBRATION

By Dylan Burnell

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held for the restoration of the Crab Bank Seabird Sanctuary, a project that started eleven years ago as simply an idea, is now a reality and a safe, predator free sanctuary for many sea and shorebirds.

On April 5, as the shorebird nesting season is underway, organizations who had worked tirelessly to reestablish the depleted island gathered at Alhambra Hall to celebrate a return of threatened birds to the island's ideal nesting ground .

Gov. Henry McMaster was in attendance for the ceremony. He spoke about how Crab Bank is a great example of how multiple agencies can work together for a common goal.

"This really is a great thing," said McMaster. "It could not have been done without a lot of people cooperating with each other and understanding how important the environment is to us."

Some refer to the many coastal islands of South Carolina as our own "Galápagos" and the reestablishment of Crab Bank adds one more island for thousands of shorebirds to use as safe place to rest, lay and hatch their young. Prior to it being washed away by coastal storms over the last decade, the island was where , thousands hatch, are nurtured, and spread their wings as they learn to fly. At night, species from as far away as the tip of South America stop for the night to rest before they continue to points as far north as the Arctic Circle.

In November 2021, through the strength of a federal and state partnership, a coalition of non-profits, and seven weeks of construction, the appropriately named "Dredge Charleston" completed Crab Bank. A crew of 53 worked 24/7 to pump 66,000 dump

trucks (660,000 cubic yards) of compatible dredged material to form what would become the landmark legacy of the Charleston Harbor Post 45 Deepening Project.

"Crab Bank has now become a feature of the Charleston Harbor that can easily be seen and noticed from as far as the Ravenel Bridge," said Lisa Metheney, senior civilian, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District. "Every time I drive over the bridge, I beam with pride thinking about the fantastic work my team did in getting to today."

Crab Bank was identified as a beneficial use location for dredged material from the Charleston Harbor deepening project. Shortly after, the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources became the project's non-federal cost-share sponsor. If not for the commitment and partnership of SCDNR and others, the opportunity to put to this sandy material to beneficial use and restore this seabird sanctuary would have been lost for good.

U.S. Rep. Nancy Mace flew back to the Lowcountry especially for the celebration.

"This is a great example of good government coming together and working for the people and our community," said Mace.

As the 2022 nesting season begins in earnest at the beginning of Spring, the big news of the day was the first American Oyster Catcher nest was observed on Crab Bank by SCDNR biologists. As the 32-acre island becomes re-colonized, the public is reminded that the island is closed to all landing from March 15 through October 15 to ensure it remains a productive resource and prime nesting habitat.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Robert Boyles (director, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources), Lisa Metheny (senior civilian, USACE Charleston District), Lorianne Riggan (director of the Office of Environmental Programs, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources), Henry McMaster (South Carolina governor), and Nancy Mace (U.S. representative for South Carolina's 1st congressional district), pose for a photo following the ribbon cutting.



October 2, 2021
Photo by Norfolk Dredging



Completed project
Photo by Adam Boozer

USACE SOUTH ATLANTIC DIVISION COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR TOURS FORT JACKSON

By Russell Toof

In 2008, Charleston District reassumed responsibility for military construction projects at Fort Jackson. Since then, the District has executed over \$1.4 billion in projects including new builds, operations and maintenance, and facility investments services.

Many of those projects were aimed at improving the basic training environment. Fort Jackson is the largest of the four basic combat training installations in the Army and roughly 60% of all new Soldiers are trained there.

Command Sgt. Maj. Chad Blansett, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Atlantic Division command sergeant major, recently toured the various work sites. Blansett was joined by Command Sgt. Maj. Philson Tavernier, command sergeant major for Fort Jackson, Command Sgt. Maj. Roberto Guadarrama, command sergeant major for the 165th Infantry Brigade, and Command Sgt. Maj. Travis Wirth, the command sergeant major for the 193rd Infantry Brigade.

"One of the most important parts of my job is to make sure the senior enlisted advisors in our Army have a better opportunity to understand what USACE does for them, especially in our region with all the military construction projects," said Blansett. "As I travel around the southeast, I'm able to tie in the things we are doing for our Army to those who are training America's best."

The 165th and 193rd are the two brigades that conduct basic combat training at Fort Jackson.

"I appreciate the opportunity to have had the occasion with the project walk-through," said

Guadarrama. "It was extremely educational. There has been an extraordinary amount of effort from team members and team leaders from different organizations in making these projects come to life."

One of the projects currently underway is Basic Training Complex Four, Phase Two, which was started this past June and is scheduled to be completed by the end of this year. Formally known as a Basic Combat Trainee Complex, it has all the required facilities to house and fully train the Army's new recruits, while also being close to field training areas and ranges.

"Fort Jackson is the first point of contact for a large percentage of the Soldiers who enlist in the U.S. Army and it's very important we provide the optimal onboarding to the newest members of our team," said Tavernier. "These new facilities will allow us to consolidate battalions into one organic location with the ability to train at scale without any impeding to our mission while enhancing capabilities."

Fort Jackson graduates an average of 1,000 basic combat training Soldiers each week and on any given day, roughly 10,000 people are training on Fort Jackson.

Following the walk-through, Blansett took some time to meet with staff at the Corps' Fort Jackson Resident Office.

"Words cannot express how much I appreciate the team and the work they do," said Blansett. "A lot of great work goes on behind the scenes and it doesn't go unnoticed. I certainly appreciate what everyone does to make USACE as great as it is."



FROM LEFT: Command Sgt. Maj. Roberto Guadarrama, command sergeant major for the 165th Infantry Brigade, Command Sgt. Maj. Chad Blansett (right), command sergeant major for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Atlantic Division, Bryan Tempio, a Resident Engineer with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Charleston District, command sergeant major for Fort Jackson, Command Sgt. Maj. Travis Wirth, command sergeant major for the 193rd Infantry Brigade, and Sgt. Maj. Philson Tavernier, command sergeant major for Fort Jackson, pose for a photo.



STRONG PARTNERSHIPS LEAD TO GOLDEN SHOVELS AT WINDING WOODS GROUNDBREAKING

By Dylan Burnell

A senior congressional representative, a federal agency, a local county and others gathered together at a construction site near the Winding Woods Commerce Park on Jan. 26 to celebrate the groundbreaking of the Winding Woods Reach and Elevated Water Tower.

The new water infrastructure project is yet another example of the power of partnerships and what strong relationships can accomplish. Among the several agencies involved include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District, Lake Marion Regional Water Agency, Dorchester County, Santee Cooper, and Congressman James E. Clyburn's office.

The future water distribution site includes a 500,000-gallon water tank located in the Winding Woods Industrial Park, 7.8-miles of water transmission pipes stretching from Harleyville to St. George, and 28 new fire hydrants along the way. Together, these aspects of the project will serve current and future industries at the Winding Woods Commerce Park, Woodland High School, Dorchester County Courthouse and residents of the greater St. George area.

What exactly is the Winding Woods Commerce Park?

It's a 624-acre \$100 million industrial site located in Dorchester County with access to I-95 and I-26. Phase one of the commerce park is estimated to create more than 450 jobs in the coming years and will have over 3.25 million square feet of industrial space. With a Norfolk Southern Rail line across the street and located less than 50 miles to the

Port of Charleston, the site is poised to become an economic catalyst for the area.

Lt. Col. Andrew Johannes, District commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District, spoke about the importance of the project and the federal-state partnerships that helped to make it possible.

"This groundbreaking is yet another example of the immense benefits from federal, state and local governments working side-by-side," said Johannes. "This strong partnership, which we have maintained for the better part of two decades, continues to strengthen the communities and people we all work so diligently to serve."

Winding Woods Reach is the seventh project of its kind for the region and is a direct result of the partnership between the Charleston District, Lake Marion Regional Water Authority, associated counties and Santee Cooper. The first project of the partnership began back in 2008 with the Lake Marion Water Treatment plant. Since this initial project, over 50 miles of water transmission lines have been laid over the last fourteen years allowing for growth and prosperity in this rural area.

While this is the seventh project, it will certainly not be the last, as plans are currently underway to extend the state-of-the-art system further into the region once federal and local funds become available in the future.

The cooperation between agencies is clear when you look at the breakdown of work to be done. Federal appropriations allow the Charleston District to fund

75% of the project and Dorchester County picks up the other 25%.

Congressman Clyburn, the congressional representative for the area and one of the project's most influential partners, spoke to the project's lasting and critical impact on the region.

"Today's groundbreaking for the Winding Woods Reach builds on the tremendous progress the Lake Marion Regional Water Agency has made over the last two decades," said Clyburn. "It will help ensure that current and future generations continue to benefit from this life-changing project."

As the speeches concluded, golden shovels were at the ready for the best part: breaking ground. A smile, flash of the camera and digging of a shovel kicked off what would be the start to another in a long line of partnerships helping rural communities.



COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON INTERN HELPS USACE CHARLESTON DISTRICT GIS TEAM

By Russell Toof

For a graduate student who grew up in Charleston with an interest in the estuarine environment and marine biology at an early age, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District was the perfect fit for an internship and valuable work experience.

"The project I've been assigned to with USACE is exciting because I am working on a coastal change detection study near Charleston Harbor," said Bailey Horn. "My project investigates a relatively new remote sensing technique, called satellite derived near-shore bathymetry, to map changes in the bathymetry (seafloor) of shallow-water, coastal areas over time. We are interested in studying Clark Sound, which is a highly dynamic bay located behind Morris Island. If you visit Clark Sound by boat, you don't even know where the shoals are, you don't know where the oyster beds are, they're hidden at high tide, they're exposed at low tide, and it's constantly changing. Basically, I will be looking at satellite imagery over time to analyze the trends in shoaling and erosion of Clark Sound with the purpose of understanding why this area is so dynamic."

Horn attended Ashley Hall, an all-girls school in Charleston, from 1998 until she graduated in 2015.

"I grew up exploring Charleston's tidal creeks in a little john boat, which fueled my curiosity to learn about the estuarine environment," said Horn. "My biology and marine science teachers at Ashley Hall were influential in igniting my passion for the marine sciences by teaching me all about this marine world."

The District has a partnership with Ashley Hall since girls are an underrepresented group in the science, technology, engineering and math fields.

"I was first connected to USACE during my senior year at Ashley Hall," she said. "I completed a senior capstone project studying the meaning of leadership and what it takes to be an effective leader. I remember interviewing Maj. Nathan Molica, a former deputy commander at USACE Charleston District, for my project. We discussed the importance of duty, instilling trust in others, teamwork and leading by example."

In addition to studying marine science in the classroom, Ashley Hall also provided Horn with the opportunity to volunteer with local marine science organizations like the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Charleston Waterkeeper.

After Ashley Hall, Horn earned a Bachelor of Science in marine biology from the College of Charleston. She also worked for the South Carolina Oyster Recycling and Enhancement Program at the SC DNR Marine Resource Division at Fort Johnson for a couple of years.

"My work with the SCORE Program was a direct link for applying my love for and background knowledge in the marine sciences to gaining some valuable hands-on experience," she said. "The SCORE Program is a community-based program that works with volunteers to monitor and help rebuild oyster reefs throughout coastal SC."



She added that she eventually decided to advance her degree and went back to CofC to work on a master's. Currently, she is in the Environmental and Sustainability Studies graduate program. She is studying hydrographic surveying and geographic information systems.

"Studying marine biology, hydrographic surveying and GIS completes the circle for me," said Horn. "I am still exploring coastal South Carolina, just adding more tools to my tool belt for doing so."

Horn said her academic advisor at the school connected her with Jennifer Kist, a geospatial coordinator at the District. Kist does the GIS and coastal dynamics studies in South Carolina and is an adjunct professor who has been teaching at the college since 2017. She is teaching an advanced hydrographic mapping and GIS class taught through the Benthic Acoustic Mapping and Survey, BEAMS for short, Program through the department of Geology and Environmental Geosciences.

"Jennifer mentioned that I could come on as a for-credit volunteer intern," said Horn. "It's an unpaid position, but I think it's well worth my time just because of the folks I'm meeting, the GIS skills I am learning and the experience of working with a great team of industry professionals."

Horn says she wants to stay in the hydrographic surveying field and hopes the internship will help her secure a full-time job in her field after she completes her advanced degree.

"The advice I'd give to somebody as an undergraduate or graduate student is to work hard in school and make as many connections as you can because that's how you will get a job," said Horn. "It's all about connections and networking. I've always gotten my jobs through volunteering. I'm really thankful for the internship here and the opportunity to work with USACE Charleston District."

SCOTT GLASS: MEET THE NEW LEADER BEHIND DISTRICT OPERATIONS

By Russell Toof

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Charleston District's Operations Division has a multi-faceted mission. It delivers navigation, hydropower, asset management, geospatial and emergency management solutions to the state of South Carolina and the nation. The man responsible for this broad mission is Scott Glass, the division's chief.

"As the chief of operations, I'm part of the senior chief group," said Glass. "This group makes strategic decisions that impact the entire district. Decisions that affect our employees and our (USACE's) direction in the future, so that is a very rewarding part of my job."

Glass is also responsible for overseeing the navigation and hydropower operations of the District.

USACE maintains hundreds of miles of waterways in South Carolina to ensure commercial, recreation and military traffic can traverse those federal waterways to include the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway and other federal navigation channels. A big component is maintaining the Charleston Harbor, including supporting the current Post 45 deepening project. Maintaining the harbor directly supports and enables the South Carolina Ports Authority, an "economic driver for the state," said Glass. Additionally, about two to three million cubic yards of material are dredged each year to maintain the harbor.

"We impact more than just operations," he said. "We provide geographic information system and geospatial support to pretty much every program in the division. We also provide significant support to the District's Regulatory program. My team contributes to the Charleston Peninsula Coastal Storm Risk Management Study and South Atlantic Coastal Study. Lastly, we have a survey team that operates a variety of equipment out of Joint Base Charleston, including our largest two vessels, the SV Evans and SV Heilsmen. They are the ones doing

the heavy work conducting hundreds of surveys of the harbor floor each year. They are out on the water almost every day."

Another aspect of the Operations Division Glass is proud to lead is the District's work with the Cooper River Rediversion Project at St. Stephen, S.C. In addition to providing power to approximately 40,000 homes and passing up to 750,000 fish annually through the fish lift, this nearly 2,500-acre property enables the District to participate in outreach efforts with the community.

"There are three events throughout the year that allow us to give back and interact with the general public in this large outdoor space," he said. "Those are the Sweetgrass Pull, Veteran and Wounded Warrior Fishing Day and Veteran and Wounded Warrior Dove Hunt. Please follow our social media channels to make sure to stay up-to-date on when those events happen."

Glass assumed the duties of operations division chief in April 2021 after serving as the navigation branch chief for six years. Before joining USACE, he worked for 20 years with Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast.

"I had wanted to come back to Charleston," said Glass. "I had been in Jacksonville for nine years and wanted to be closer to family. I had hoped to find a position in USACE that was similar to my role in NAVFAC. I knew some people here, I understood the mission and the mission really resonated with me."

Glass currently has 31 employees under him, in various specialty areas.

Glass grew up in Bangor, Maine, but moved to Charleston in 1980 just before his 18th birthday.

"At this point, I consider Charleston my home," said Glass.



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®
Charleston District

PIECES OF PROSPERITY



POST 45 CHARLESTON HARBOR DEEPENING

Dredging the Charleston Harbor to a depth of 52 feet will make the Port of Charleston the deepest on the East Coast and address transportation inefficiencies.

Thanks to the new Walmart Distribution Center, the port has seen a 5% increase in volume, or 350 containers per day.

CRAB BANK SHOREBIRD RESTORATION

Over 660k cubic yards of beneficially-used dredged material from the Post 45 Deepening Project were used to restore Crab Bank.

With over 32 acres of prime nesting grounds for shorebirds, Crab Bank plays a vital role in the Lowcountry's Ecosystem.

AQUATIC RESOURCE REGULATION

To balance environmental protection with economic development, the District's Regulatory Division works tirelessly.

In 2021, project managers issued over 1,200 permits for projects such as Walmart's new distribution center, Volvo and Boeing.

PUTTING TOGETHER THE PUZZLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



LAKE MARION REGIONAL WATER PROJECTS

Since 2008, over 45 miles of pipelines have been completed. These lines provide reliable, clean water to rural areas that previously relied on well water.

The new Winding Woods Reach will serve the Ridgeville Industrial campus and include 7.8 miles of water pipelines and a 500,000 gallon water tank.



RIDGEVILLE INDUSTRIAL CAMPUS

35 miles from the Charleston Harbor and within a mile of the new water pipeline is the newly-constructed Ridgeville Industrial Campus.

At over 1,000 acres, the site will promote new business and growth in the area, while providing jobs and development opportunities.



WALMART DISTRIBUTION CENTER

With the availability of reliable, clean water and a deeper port, Walmart announced a new 3M sq. ft. distribution center.

The first tenant at the Ridgeville Industrial Campus, Walmart is the first to leverage the near-complete deepened harbor & will provide 1,500+ jobs supporting 850 regional Walmart locations.



Hurricane Preparedness 101



Make a plan

Power up

Secure the exterior

Unplug appliances & electronics

Install storm shutters

Protect important documents

Move your cars

Identify a shelter room

**“Plan today”
[ready.gov/hurricanes](https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes)**

