



# Information Bulletin

**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**  
Engineer Research and  
Development Center

Topographic Engineering Center

*U.S. Army 1999 Research & Development  
Organization of the Year*

May 2, 2002  
Number 09-02

**O F F I C I A L**

## Calendar of Events

June 20	Engineer Day Ceremony, Conference Rooms 1, 2 and 3 at 1 p.m.
June 21	Open House/Picnic

## Bulletin Publication Change

With the establishment of an ERDC-wide Information Bulletin, which will be published every 2 weeks, individual site Bulletins will now be published in the “off” weeks. Please keep this in mind when submitting articles and information for the site Bulletin. The next Alexandria Site Information Bulletin will be published on May 16.

## Commander's Mailbox

ERDC team members are reminded that an electronic mailbox has been established to allow employees to send questions and/or comments to the Commander. If an employee wishes to remain anonymous, his or her name will be deleted from the question before it is forwarded to the Commander for comment. Employees' questions will be answered via return e-mail. Answers to anonymous and frequently asked questions will be posted in the Employee Information Bulletin.

The address in Outlook is, “ERDC Commander.” Again, all information is kept strictly confidential and all questions are addressed directly by the Commander.

FOR THE DIRECTOR

JACKIE L. BRYANT  
Public Affairs Office

## UNOFFICIAL

### Service club answers TEC member's desire to help community

For many months, our attention has been focused on the needs of those affected by unforeseen events. Locally and worldwide, people have displayed a tremendous outpouring of support to those in need. Thanks to organizations like the Lions Clubs International, women and men in the local community are always available to serve those in need on a continuing basis.

On April 2, members of the Springfield-Franconia Host Lions Club were recognized for their service to the community, when it was awarded the Bob Westmoreland Award for Community Service. "Receiving the award is special because although we have a small membership, we are fortunate to have such strong support from the community to make so many different service projects successful," says Club President, Linda Graff, TS-T.

So, what inspired Linda to join the Lions? "Well, I was looking for some type of community activity to get involved in and a co-worker mentioned the Lions," Linda explained. "It sounded interesting so I decided to join, that was in 1996," she says. Although Linda's presidency ends in June, she actually has been in the office for the past 18 months. "The past president fell and broke his neck while on vacation in India so I stepped in and completed his term. His injury was a shock to us all and I am overwhelmed with how the club members have stepped up to help and support him."

The Springfield-Franconia Host Lions Club provides assistance to the community in the areas of sight, hearing, and youth activities. Under its Hearing Assistance Activities, the Club supports the Lions of Virginia Foundation's Sight and Hearing Van, which offers free hearing screenings. "The screenings help participants identify problems. If problems are apparent after screening, the person is advised to seek professional medical care," Linda emphasizes. The club also assists those financially unable to afford hearing aids and hearing-related operations.

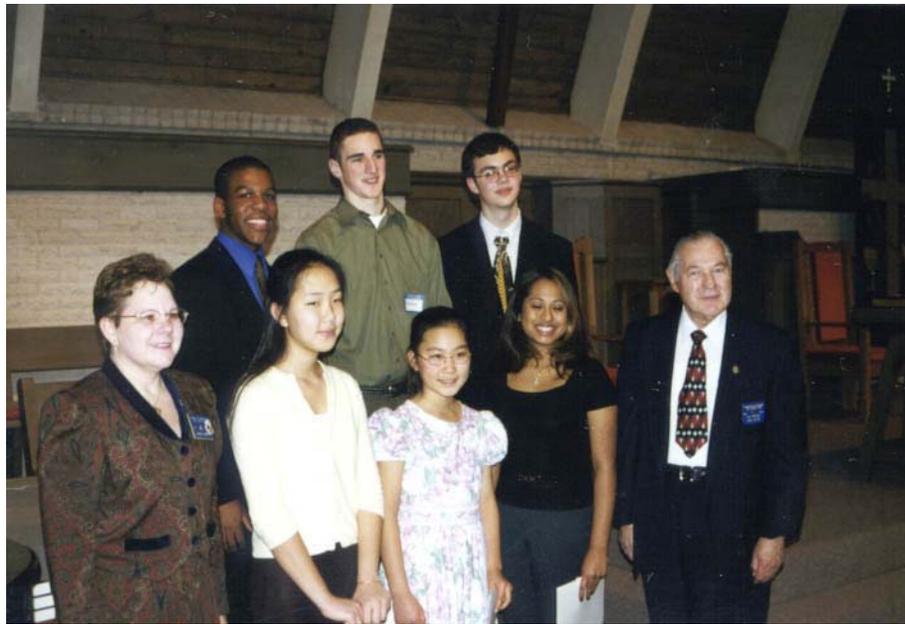


Linda, along with Lion John Garilli and his Leader Dog Kona, prepare to ride in the "Springfield Day" parade.

Have you ever wondered what becomes of the used eyeglasses that you leave in the “Lions Recycle for Sight” boxes? Well, the Club’s Sight Conservation Activities strive to make the slogan “Your Unwanted Glasses Will Help Someone See Better” a reality. Members meet at the Eyeglass Recycling Center in Falls Church, Va. on the first Monday of each month to sort, wash and package donated eyeglasses. The eyeglasses are then distributed to the visually impaired overseas.

“Our club collects approximately 3,000 pairs of eyeglasses every year,” Linda says. “I’ve read articles about the distribution of eyeglasses at various missions overseas and it’s amazing to think that people line up a day in advance, when they know the eyeglasses are coming. Sometimes, the eyeglasses these people receive allow them to see clearly for the first time in their lives.” The club also supports a Leader Dog program that provides guide dogs for the visually impaired, as well as provides assistance to those identified by county agencies as being unable to afford eyeglasses or eye operations. The Sight and Hearing Van is also used to provide vision and glaucoma screenings free to the community.

In support of Youth Activities, club members are involved in local High School Leo Clubs, Lions Youth Camp, Lions International Youth Exchange, the American Legion-sponsored Boys and Girls State Programs and the James Bland Music Competition. In 1996, the club established a scholarship at West Springfield High School in honor of a member and his wife who perished on TWA Flight 800. “The criteria for receiving one of the two \$750 scholarships are based more on a student’s service to the community than academic or school activities.”



**Linda (left) and her sponsor Bob Hemm (far right) pose with local student contestants at the club’s Lions of Virginia James Bland Music Competition.**

With 1.4 million members serving in more than 44,800 clubs in 188 countries and geographical areas, Lions Clubs International is the world's largest service club organization. “It’s amazing. You can travel around the country and out in the middle of nowhere you’ll see the Lions Clubs International emblem,” says Linda. “It’s nice to know that Lions Club members are always there for the community.”

## **New Addition**

Mackenzie Michelle Skiff was born on April 9, 2002 at Fairfax Hospital at 2:36 p.m. Her mother, Cassi Skiff was born in the same hospital at 2:38 p.m. in the afternoon. They are both Tuesday children. Mackenzie weighed 6 lbs and 13 ounces, and was 20 inches long. In 1991, Cassi worked as a summer hire at HECSA for Tony McCall in Maintenance. She joined TEC as a summer hire in 1992 and 1993 and worked for Darlene Seyler in the PAO. Cassi has worked in private industry since 1998 as a Benefits Manager in the Human Resources department. Mackenzie's father Eric is a contractor for JPSPD. The proud grandmother Connie Gray, TD, introduced the couple in 1997.



**Connie, Cassi and the newest addition MacKenzie.**  
(Photo by Jason Lempeck)

## **For Rent**

A vacation rental in Nags Head N.C., is available Aug. 24-31. This beautiful new home sleeps 10 people, has four bedrooms and two master suites, one with a Whirlpool Tub. There are 3.5 bathrooms, a private swimming pool, hot tub for six, sun-covered deck with furniture, screened porch, recreation room, baby equipment, many other amenities. Only 450 feet to the beach.

Total cost for a full week is \$1,846 but will accept \$1,600. This includes a \$250.00 refundable Security Deposit. Final cost is \$1,350.

The rental home can be viewed at: <http://www.kitty.com/NH/0417.htm>.

For more information, contact Elia Breaux at 428-6838, ICOM 2851 or (703) 799-0892.