



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**®  
Galveston District

# News Release

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## Galveston District employees honored during Engineer Day festivities

More than 200 Galveston District employees and guests celebrated Engineer Day 2009 with an awards ceremony June 11 and fun-filled picnic June 12 at the district's headquarters building.

The Army Corps of Engineers originated on June 16, 1775, when General George Washington appointed the first Chief of Engineers of the Continental Army. In that event lies the origins of Engineer Day, observed across the Corps around the June 16 timeframe.

"It has been a momentous and extremely demanding time for our District. From Hurricane Ike repair work to American Reinvestment and Recovery Act projects to our normal (and busy) project schedule, I know that everyone is carrying a heavy load," said Colonel David C. Weston, Galveston District commander. "Congratulations to those of you who are recognized for your outstanding achievements, and thanks to all of you for the tremendous efforts you have made to keep us 'building strong'."

Highlighting this year's awards ceremony was the announcement of the district Employee of the Year, **Fred Anthamatten**, chief, Regulatory Branch and district Engineer of the Year, **Willie Joe Honza**, architectural engineering contract coordinator with the Engineering and Construction Division.

Anthamatten has worked for the Corps of Engineers for 32 years, all of which have been with the Galveston District. He led the district's regulatory program to a highly successful year of significant accomplishments, providing guidance in developing processes and training for the newly-implemented regulatory management database.

Anthamatten also directed the initiation of an expanded cumulative impact assessment on Galveston Island and has developed a climate of responsiveness, completing on-time responses to both internal and external requests for public information.

Honza started his career in the Galveston District as an office engineer in the Construction Branch and has 20 years of federal service. He negotiated, finalized and issued six architectural and engineering task orders for the Flood Control and Coastal Emergency contracts.



*Galveston District commander Colonel David C. Weston congratulates the district's 2009 Employee of the Year, Fred Anthamatten, at an awards ceremony June 11.*

**-MORE-**

## AWARDS 2

Honza's efforts enabled the district to meet an aggressive schedule to award contracts before the 2009 hurricane season. Due to his tremendous increase in workload, the district's architectural and engineering capacity was exhausted early in the fiscal year; however, Honza was able to borrow additional architectural and engineering capacity from other districts to assure the district met its required mission.

Also nominated for the Employee of the Year Award were **Karl Brown**, operations project manager, Navigation Branch, Operations Division, **Andria Davis**, project manager, Regulatory Branch, Planning, Environmental and Regulatory Division, **Mike deMasi**, supervisory project engineer, Northern Area Office, Engineering and Construction Division, **Rick Medina**, chief of planning, Planning and Environmental Branch, Planning, Environmental and Regulatory Division, **Joy Smith**, realty specialist, Real Estate Division, **Gilbert Treviño**, civil engineering technician, Engineering Branch, Engineering and Construction Division, **Humberto Troche**, civil engineering technician, Southern Area Office, Engineering and Construction Division and **Jill Wiggins**, administrative assistant to branch chief, Regulatory Branch, Planning, Environmental and Regulatory Division. Also nominated for the Engineer of the Year Award was **Nancy Young**, civil engineer, Engineering Branch, Engineering and Construction Division.

The Regulator of the Year Award was awarded to **Andria Davis**, project manager, Regulatory Branch, Planning, Environmental and Regulatory Division. Davis was also selected as the Southwestern Division Regulator of the Year.

Two retirees were selected for inclusion in the district's Gallery of Distinguished Civilians. **Owen Ralston**, a former chief of the Design Branch, a position he held until his retirement in 1996 after 34 years of service to the district, was selected for embodying all of the characteristics of technical competency and exceptional leadership during his tenure with the Galveston District. **Richard Harrison**, a former chief of the Real Estate Division, was selected for his profound and long-lasting impact on the Real Estate Division. Harrison was instrumental in finding innovative ways to reduce costs of doing business and assisted other district's real estate functions while in his position.

Receiving service awards for civilian service were **Fern Kirkley**, civil engineer technician in the Engineering and Construction Division for 50 years of service to the Galveston District.

**Arthur J. Janecka**, deputy district engineer and chief of program and project management, received a 45-year service award for his dedicated years of public service, all of which have been with the Galveston District. Forty-year service awards were presented to **John Hander**, a civil engineering technician in the Engineering and Construction Division, and **John J. (Jack) Otis**, a project manager in Programs and Project Management.



*2009 Engineer of the Year, Willie Joe Honza, is presented a plaque by Colonel David C. Weston at an awards ceremony June 11 at the district's headquarters building.*

### **Other awards included commander's coins to outgoing recreation committee members:**

Dawn Benoit  
Tencha Deckard  
Eddie Irigoyen  
Lisa Johnson  
Sandie Morrison  
Sharon Lamkins

## AWARDS 3

### 35 Years of Service

Salvatore Arcidiacono  
Bruce Biggs  
Curtis Cole Jr.  
Richard Curphey (ACE-IT)  
Dolan Dunn  
Diane Kovacevich  
Kenneth R. McDonald  
Travers Powell (ACE-IT)  
Harley Rowe

### 30 Years of Service

Manuel Fano  
Armido Filedei  
Marianne Fullen (ULA)  
Cindy T. Jones  
Patricia Kershaw  
Jacqueline Lockhart  
Gary Owens  
Robert Peel  
Luis Rodriguez  
Joy L. Smith

### 25 Years of Service

Leigh Adams  
Jacqueline Adekanbi  
Joshua Adekanbi  
John O. Barnett  
Terrill Beyer  
Donald W. Carelock  
Danny Cruz  
Diana Laird  
Randy Moore  
Michael A. Nelson  
Jon Plymale  
Maria E. Rodriguez  
Lucille Smith  
Pamela Thibodeaux

### 20 Years of Service

Kenneth W. Adams  
Colleen Chamberlain  
Robert W. Heinly  
Willie J. Honza  
Kenneth Jaynes  
Lisa Johnson  
Mark Pattillo  
Rafael Rubalcaba Jr.  
Paulino Sandoval  
Mary Jane Smith

### 15 Years of Service

Terri Carlson  
Andrea Catanzaro  
Robert E. George  
Lillian Terry  
Daniel Williams  
Nancy C. Young

### 10 Years of Service

Jose Rivera Castro  
Debra Jones  
Gretchen Leatherwood  
Trina Ruse  
Sheridan Willey

### 5 Years of Service

Gilberto Alvarez  
Jesse Deshotels  
Robert S. Garcia  
Michael Flynt Houston  
Seth W. Jones  
Benito Posas  
Gregory Schaefer  
Tosin Sekoni  
Michael C. Sterling  
Humberto Troche Jr.  
Andrew Wendel

### Army Achievement Medal

CPT Chris Collins

### Achievement Medal for Civilian Service

Gloria Appell  
Ronny Beasley  
Robert Heinley  
Steve Ireland  
Richard Long

### Commander's Award for Civilian Service

Gilbert Alvarez  
Veronica Benavides  
Loretta Buddenhagen  
Coleen Chamberlain  
Jacqueline Lockhart  
Fredalyn Colston  
Mary Ann Cooper  
John Davidson  
Mike de Masi  
Marianne Fullen  
Wanda Hollman  
Jennifer Hymel  
Debra Jones  
Patricia Kershaw  
Gus Marino  
Val Miller  
Martin Regner  
Justo Pena  
Orlando Rosas  
Charles Scheffler  
Gary Stangeland  
Sharon Tirpak  
Gilbert Treviño  
Betty Voelkel