



TRVA News



Spring 2011 Newsletter

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Upcoming Events:

National Waterways Conference Annual Meeting
September 19-21, 2011
Fort Worth, TX

Tennessee River Valley Association Annual Meeting
October 17-18, 2011
Gatlinburg, TN

Waterways Council Inc. Annual Waterways Symposium
October 19-21, 2011
Pittsburgh, PA

Join TRVA Today!!!

Tennessee River Valley Association is now on Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Tennessee-River-Valley-Association/219651447941>

Lt. Colonel James A. DeLapp takes Command of Nashville District

On Friday June 24, 2011, Lieutenant Colonel James A. DeLapp assumed command of the Nashville District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Change of Command Ceremony was held in Nashville's historic Grand Masonic Lodge where family, dignitaries, invited guests and Nashville District employees witnessed the time honored proceedings. (*1)

LTC DeLapp comes to the Nashville District after serving most recently in the Pentagon as Legislative Assistant to the Chief of Staff of the Army, General George W. Casey, Jr.

Born in Oak Park, Illinois, LTC DeLapp was commissioned a Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers upon graduation from Kansas State University in 1994, where he received his Bachelor of Architecture degree.

LTC DeLapp earned his Master's of Science in Construction Management from Texas A&M University in 2003. LTC DeLapp is a graduate of the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms

Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College, Ranger School, Airborne School, Air Assault School, and the 82nd Airborne Division Jumpmaster School.

"What an honor to

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MG John Peabody passes the Nashville District Command Flag to LTC James DeLapp

TRVA Planning 45th Annual Meeting

Planning is under way for the TRVA 45th Annual Meeting to be held on October 17-18, 2011 in Gatlinburg, Tennessee in the Great Smokey Mountains.

Fall is the most beautiful time of the year in the Smokies. Moderate temperatures provide opportunities for outdoor activities and comfortable access to restaurants, shopping, attractions and colorful vistas all within easy walking distance of the meeting facilities in the Clarion Inn Hotel.

Constrained federal budgets, critical ongoing construction projects facing suspension, and water resource needs outside of our river basins will require discussions on insuring the continued benefits provided by our region's river systems.



The Great Smokey Mountains from 6,643 ft. at Clingmans Dome Observation Tower

Georgia Continues to Target The Tennessee River

As metro Atlanta and other growing areas in north Georgia desperately search for a reliable source of municipal and industrial water supply to support their expected growth, they continue to look to the Tennessee River to accommodate their forecasted needs.

Earlier this year in the Georgia General Assembly, SB132 was introduced to "exempt water withdrawals from a certain portion of the Tennessee River basin from restrictions on interbasin transfers of water." (*2)

Later in the Georgia legislative session, resolutions SR228 and HR424 were adopted "Urging the performance of a feasibility study of the withdrawal, storage, and distribution of waters from a certain portion of the basin of the Tennessee River; and for other purposes." (*3)

In February, the Final Draft of the Coosa-North Georgia Water Development and Conservation Plan was released. That plan targeted the Tennessee River as a future source to sup-

port growth in northwest Georgia stating "The CNG Council recognizes there are potential legal issues that would have to be addressed between Georgia and Tennessee to facilitate usage of the Tennessee River; however, the Council would like future planning efforts to address this alternative water source in more detail."

As a result of the actions by parties in Georgia, the TRVA immediately began efforts to encourage a dialogue designed to discuss the possible adverse consequences that would result from large transfers of water away from the Tennessee River basin.

In an effort to build a consensus among affected parties in the region, TRVA provided outlines for, and completed resolutions for consideration of adoption by Legislatures in Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Mississippi. TRVA also sought the support of waterway and other interested associations in our region.

The Alabama Legislature adopted a TRVA supported strongly

worded joint resolution April 27. (*4) The TRVA Board adopted a similar resolution on May 2, 2011, followed by the Warrior-Tombigbee Waterway Association on May 12, 2011.

In early June, the most recent Georgia proposal was suggested by the Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives. Though details are unclear, the plan offers east Tennessee road and rail transportation access to Atlanta and the Port of Savannah in exchange for long sought access to water from the Tennessee River.

On June 28, 2011, the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a 2009 "water wars" ruling that would restrict Georgia's access to Lake Lanier in 2012. It is unclear how this ruling will affect Georgia efforts to gain access to the Tennessee River.

TRVA will continue to monitor all developments and encourage efforts to protect the Tennessee from the potentially adverse effects of large transfers of water out of the Tennessee River basin.

TRVA Joins PACE in Letter to EPA Administrator Jackson

The Partnership for Affordable Clean Energy (PACE) is a coalition of working people, business owners, environmentalists, and trade organizations who are fighting for fair, responsible energy policies.

PACE believes that the national conversation about the future of energy must include discussions about the cost of particular energy alternatives, not just their environmental benefits. In the end, it is America's working families and businesses that pay for the energy future we create today. That future must be affordable.

Headquartered in Montgomery, Alabama, PACE has affiliates and supporters across the Southeast and beyond.

On Friday, June 17, a diverse group of energy, business and labor

representatives in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee urged Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson to indefinitely delay recently proposed Utility MACT rules in a joint letter to the administrator. (*5)

The TRVA supported effort comes in the wake of numerous reports and assurances from energy providers that proposed Utility MACT rules, as currently written, will result in massive layoffs and plant closures across the country, particularly in the Southeast.

"Our fear is that the Southeast will be most vulnerable to the consequences of Utility MACT rules. Our region remains the last mainstay of heavy manufacturing, with hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions in

economic impact that rely on the industry's success," said Lance Brown, PACE Executive Director.

"Administrator Jackson should recognize recent emissions improvements and choose wisely when considering rules that could restrain domestic energy, endanger jobs, and saddle consumers with higher power bills."

In addition to being transmitted to Administrator Lisa Jackson by mail and fax, PACE also provided copies to the congressional delegations from Southeastern states, as well as their Public Service Commissions, for a total of 175 additional recipients.

TRVA Executive Director, Cline Jones, serves on the PACE Board of Directors providing the TRVA direct input in the policies and programs of this important organization.

National Waterways Conference Hosts "Waterways 101"

On June 29, 2011, the Congressional Waterways Caucus presented "Waterways 101," a briefing hosted by the National Waterways Conference and moderated by Amy Larson, NWC President.

The objective was to illustrate how our nation's waterways and ports are maintained and the impact that commercial and recreational users have on our local, regional, and national economies.

Our domestic ports and harbors support the more than 95% of U.S. overseas trade that is transported by ship and also sustain more than 13 million domestic jobs.

Our waterways and the supporting infrastructure are vital economic drivers of local economies across the nation. Barges, another important component of maritime traffic on America's inland waterways, move

more than 630 million tons of cargo over some 25,000 miles of inland and intracoastal waterways each year.

Collectively, the commercial and recreational users of our nation's waterways contribute hundreds of billions of dollars to our economy each year.

"Waterways 101" explored how the various maritime stakeholders support jobs and our economy. Representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Waterways Conference and commercial and recreational users were on hand to discuss the industry and field any questions.

The bi-partisan Congressional Waterways Caucus, co-chaired by Reps. Mike McIntyre (D-NC) and Steve Scalise (R-LA), provides a forum for Members and staff to discuss critical issues and legislation related to waterways by facilitating a focus on the issues surround-

ing waterways and ports through briefings that bring together experts from Capitol Hill, Federal and state agencies, and the private sector.

The standing room only crowd was treated to a "Corps 101" discussion led by Let Mon Lee, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) for Policy and Legislation. The informative and very entertaining presentation explained the process for securing project authorization and funding.

Key industry issues, including the need for adequate funding and the economic benefits our waterways provide, were provided by Chris Coakley, Vice President, Legislative Affairs, American Waterways Operators, and Maureen Healey, Executive Director, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterways Association. Another briefing is being planned for this fall.

Cornel Martin to Leave Waterways Council Inc.



It was announced in May that Cornel J. Martin, president and CEO of the Waterways Council, Inc., since 2008, will be leaving the organization at the end of June 2011 to pursue other interests.

He thanked WCI members "for having given me the opportunity to return to Washington, D.C., to make a difference and a positive contribution to an industry that I have been a part of my entire life..."

WCI's chairman, Richard R. (Rick) Calhoun of Cargill, Inc., praised Mr. Martin as "instrumental in the development of a savvy media and publicity campaign, in the creation of the coalition of stakeholders and partners for the capital development plan, and in the execution of several successful WCI symposia and seminars."

Mr. Martin previously worked on the American Waterways Operators' staff, serving as vice president of AWO's Southern region; as a senior executive of the New Orleans based Delta Queen Steamboat Co.; and as chairman of a

family business serving the shipbuilding industry.

Mr. Martin has been a valuable and trusted friend of TRVA during his tenure at WCI. His knowledge of, and experience in the waterways industry has been often called upon as TRVA has planned articles for release to press outlets and prepared presentations to be used during visits to lawmakers in Washington.

Cornel's leadership and counsel as a steadfast leader in the waterways industry will be missed. TRVA is confident that Mr. Martin will continue to be engaged in efforts that seek to insure the continued improvement, modernization, and the efficient maintenance and operation of our nation's aging waterway infrastructure.

Change of Command ...Continued from page 1

have been entrusted with such an awesome responsibility. I could not be happier to have been selected to lead such a great team of people in the best organization in the United States Army," DeLapp said in his prepared remarks.

LTC DeLapp is married to the former Angela Eichem of Wamego, Kansas. They have three children, Gabriel, Sophia, and Luke.

The outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Anthony Mitchell bid farewell to the District he commanded since July 2009. In a tearful farewell address, he thanked God, his family and friends, and Nashville District team members for their support and his success. Under Mitchells' tenure, the Nashville District met many challenges including

complex rehabilitation work at Wolf Creek and Center Hill Dams, and construction work at Kentucky Lock and Chickamauga Lock and Dam. He most notably led the Nashville District through the May 2010 flood. Mitchell becomes the officer-in-charge/ commander of the Iraq Area Office in Baghdad.

TRVA has enjoyed the friendship and positive working relationship shared with the Mitchell family. TRVA also very much appreciates the dedicated service and sacrifice of LTC Mitchell and his family on behalf of the citizens of the Tennessee and Cumberland Valleys, and to our nation.

Supporters in the waterways industry are hopeful that LTC Mitchell will follow in the tradition of other for-

mer Nashville District Commanders. Colonels Pete Taylor, Byron Jorns, and Steve Roemhildt have left Nashville for other assignments to later return to our region's rivers and waterways as Commander of the Mobile District.



LTC Anthony Mitchell and Stakeholders during a TRVA Golf Outing in Gatlinburg, TN



TRVA "Pic of the Valley"

This "Pic of the Valley" was taken while exiting the Main Lock chamber of the Wheeler Dam onto the beautiful Wilson Lake. The Wheeler Dam is one of the Tennessee Valley Authority's nine main-stream dams on the Tennessee River. (*6)

TVA multipurpose dams provide numerous benefits to the Tennessee Valley region that include: flood damage reduction; low-cost hydropower generation; efficient and economical transportation; reliable municipal and industrial water supply; multiple recreational opportunities; critical ecosystem preservation; and contributions to the overall quality of life throughout the entire TVA seven state region.

TRVA is Needed Now More Than Ever!!!

Since 1967, the Tennessee River Valley Association has served as the only unbiased non-partisan unified voice for overall common sense water resource policies in the Tennessee and Cumberland Valleys.

Economies depend on our region's river systems for low-cost power generation, municipal & industrial water supply, efficient waterborne transportation, recreation, tourism, environmental preservation and jobs.

Threatened by constrained federal budgets, an insolvent trust fund resulting in the suspension of ongoing vital infrastructure projects, and increasing demand for critical water resources from outside our river basins, the need for strong unified voices and nominal financial support of TRVA Programs is essential to our region's economic future. Full Memberships are available for less than \$21 per month.

Join TRVA Today!!!

Tennessee River Valley Association
Tennessee-Cumberland Waterways Council

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Footnoted Links:

*1 Nashville District Change of Command video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p39LbwdpDSs&feature=player_embedded#at=11

*2 Georgia SB132: http://www1.legis.ga.gov/legis/2011_12/fulltext/sb132.htm

*3 Georgia Resolution SR228: http://www1.legis.ga.gov/legis/2011_12/fulltext/sr228.htm

*4 Alabama Resolution SJR80: <http://www.openbama.org/index.php/bill/fulltext/4322>

*5 PACE Letter to EPA Administrator Jackson: <http://blog.energyfairness.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/06/Pace-Jackson-Letter-7-17-11.pdf>

*6 TRVA "Pic of the Valley" #10: <http://www.trva-tcwc.org/pic-of-the-valley-10/>