

Savannah District News

Gordon Simmons heads Engineering Division



Simmons

Gordon L. Simmons became the Chief of Engineering Division for the Savannah district in February 2011. As chief, Simmons is responsible for the planning, directing, coordination, and execution of the design of the district's military, civil, and Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste program. Before assuming his current position, he was the Deputy Chief of Engineering and Chief of the Technical Specialties Branch with the district. Simmons also served in the construction quality assurance branch at the Corps' Fort Worth district, as well as in positions in design, construction and program management in Israel, Europe, Japan, and the Marshall Islands. Simmons was born and raised in Corpus Christi, Texas. He graduated from Texas A&M University in 1983 with a degree in Civil Engineering and is a registered Professional Engineer in Texas. He also holds a Master of Science degree in Administration from Central Michigan University.

Michael Masko joins the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center



Masko

Michael Masko joined the Savannah district in October 2010 as Director of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. Before coming to the district, Masko was the Acting Director of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center in Grafenwoehr, Germany. His experience in federal service spans 24 years with the U.S. Army, Defense Contract Management Agency and U.S. Postal Service. Before entering federal service, Masko worked as a private investigator conducting civil, criminal, and domestic investigations. Masko is a U.S. Air Force brat and considers Philadelphia, Pa., home. He has both an associate and bachelor's degree in administration of justice from Temple University. Masko and his wife, Jacqueline, reside in Pooler, Ga.

Savannah District celebrates National Engineer Week

The Savannah district celebrated the 60th anniversary of National Engineer Week—Feb. 21-25 — with school presentations, science fair judging, a technical lecture, and an awards program. Members of the Engineering and Construction Divisions served as judges for the Savannah Regional Science and Engineering Fair, reviewing 50 innovative entries submitted by talented middle and high school students. The winners received U.S. Saving Bonds, provided by the Savannah Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (S.A.M.E). Receiving high praise from students and instructors, other team members gave a series of presentations on mechanical and electrical engineering, architecture, geology and hydrology at Jenkins High School, the only engineering program in Chatham County. The district also participated in a Technical Training Conference, sponsored in part by S.A.M.E, where Col. Jeff Hall, commander of the Savannah district, gave opening remarks, and the team participated in a Building Information Modeling (BIM) panel discussion. As part of the same conference, Michael P. Wielputz, P.E., received the "James Connolly Award" in recognition of his outstanding support of the engineering profession while serving as a civil engineer with the Savannah district's Environmental and Materials Unit field office in Marietta, Ga. Wielputz was also praised for his support to mentoring young engineers.



David Gustashaw (left), structural engineer, and Kristin Froistad (right), architect, explain to a group of Jenkins High School students, the role that structural engineers and architects play in the construction process. *Photo by Brittany Phillips*