



Highway News



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Pennsylvania Department of Highways

October 1967

COMMISSION CONTINUING TOLL STUDY

The Highways Commission this month will continue its in-depth study into the feasibility of building toll roads and bridges as a means of speeding up construction on four vitally needed projects.

Toll facilities are not looked upon with any enthusiasm by the Commission. The study is only an exploration of another means by which new projects could be constructed earlier than via six-year improvement program.

Projects studied were the Oakland Crosstown Freeway in Pittsburgh; the Northeast and Tacony Creek Freeway in Philadelphia; the Kittanning-Ford City Bypass; and the Hallam to Mountville section of new Rt. 30 in York and Lancaster counties.

The studies showed that in no project would the estimated net revenue be sufficient to cover both first-year bond interest and annual debt service.

However, the possibility remains of building the facilities, or parts thereof, through state guaranteed bonds which have a lower interest rate. These and other means of financing the projects are being considered.

New Roads Save Time

Nearly 11 minutes in travel time was saved by a team of State Highway Department technicians in a time and economy test on I-79 comparing travel with old U. S. 19 north of Pittsburgh.

Beaver County Bridge Contest Entry



Scenic view in Beaver County, about five miles northwest of Unionville, includes unusual bridge design on L.R. 04076 over Brush Creek. Photo has been entered in American Institute of Steel Construction contest.

Highway Users' Viewpoints Asked

The Highway Commission has invited highway users and allied agencies to open a new round of hearings leading to an early 1969 selection of projects to assure a continuing six-year improvement program.

Thirty-nine letters of invitation have been mailed to highway user groups and related governmental agencies to present their viewpoints during the Commission's Oct. 10-11 meeting in Harrisburg.

Secretary Bartlett said it is essential in the performance of the Commission's functions to obtain the thinking of highway users, and statewide agencies in the challenge of making Pennsylvania No. 1 in highways, not in quantity, but in "quality, utility, service and safety."

Worldwide Attention

Pennsylvania's vast highways improvement program is receiving worldwide attention. The most recent is the 270-foot Emlenton Bridge which will carry Keystone Shortway traffic over the Allegheny River in Butler, Venango and Clarion counties. A photo of construction work used by Central Press recently appeared in the Greek newspaper, Atlantis. The highway bridge will be the highest in Pennsylvania, and one of the highest in the nation.

ELTON TREESE NOMINEE FOR 'HANDICAP AWARD'



ELTON TREESE JR.

A Korean War veteran, who was discharged from the Valley Forge Army Hospital with 100% disability, is Highways' 1967 nominee for the "Handicapped State Employee of the Year" award.

He is Elton Treese Jr., of 43 North Fourth St., Hughesville. Treese is a project engineer with District 3 at Montoursville.

The award winner will be announced during the first week of October by Gov. Shafer's committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

Treese, a squad leader of Company "E", 38th Regimental Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, was wounded by machine gunfire in the lower and upper right leg while making a breakout through Red Chinese troops in North Korea on Nov. 30, 1950.

He was placed on a tank and continued the breakout, however, he received additional wounds from machine gun fire in the shoulders and back.

For a period of six months he was a complete paraplegic although he recovered some functions of his legs while in the Valley Forge Army Hospital before he was discharged with 100 per cent disability. He then spent 11 months in the Veterans Hospital in Framingham, Mass. before returning home. His right leg was totally paralyzed.

Despite the handicap Treese enrolled at Lycoming College where he met and married Mrs. Treese. They now have two children.

He spent two years training "on-the-job" with Freeman Optical Co., Williamsport before joining the Highways Department on July 3, 1957 as a clerk.

Since that time his tireless ambition has led him to three promotions.

Currently he is project engineer on part of I-80 (Keystone Shortway) in Union County. The project value is \$2.3 million.

In carrying out his duties, Treese often is required to walk over rough terrain to supervise contractors' activities.

Highways Secretary Robert G. Bartlett said Treese "has overcome his handicap to be of outstanding service to the Commonwealth."

Highway Week

October 8-14

Pennsylvania Highway Week will be observed October 8-14.

Various activities are planned to demonstrate the importance of our record road building program, and at the same time highlighting our program.

Among the highlights are the national record of \$109.4 million in projects during June, and the \$335 million in highway improvements for the past fiscal year.

Planned events include a statewide dinner sponsored by the Pennsylvania Highway Information Association (PHIA) in Harrisburg; two-day meeting of the Commission (Oct. 10-11); tours of highway projects, maintenance improvements and for engineering schools; speaking engagements; and both road openings and ground breaking ceremonies.

Student Paper Award

Recognizing the importance of promoting student interest in the engineering problems in the development and use of highways, the Harrisburg Section of the American Society of Highway Engineers is sponsoring a Student Paper Award.

A \$250 award will go to the winner. Competition is restricted to residents of Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry and York counties who are enrolled in an accredited college of engineering. Application deadline is Nov. 30.



Secretary's Column

by ROBERT G. BARTLETT

Key To Balanced Progress

Each of us is a manager to a greater or lesser extent whether we know it or not. Some of us are managers in many respects - on the job, at home, in civic groups, for our church and even in a political party organization.

Let's concentrate for a moment, however, on how we can operate as more effective managers in our daily jobs here in the Highway Department.

FIVE KEY ELEMENTS OF SUCCESS

Key elements of our, or any, management function often are considered to be five: planning, decision-making, instructions, execution, and control - and approximately in that order. Briefly, let's consider each element:

1 - **PLANNING** simply means developing -- perhaps on paper or merely in our minds -- our plans, goals or objectives; that is, exactly what we hope to achieve and how the goal can be reached.

2 - **DECISION-MAKING** comes only after careful planning, including a listing of objectives and thorough analysis and study of these objectives. A critical factor in decision-making is full consideration of alternate ways to meet objectives. And there are always a number of alternates with some usually of almost equal merit.

3 - **INSTRUCTIONS** is the third element and follows closely upon decision-making, for once a course of action is set, it becomes immediately important that thorough, understandable instructions on how to implement the decision be issued, whether written or oral. In short, good instructions must be understandable and conveyed promptly to those who must see that they are carried out.

4 - The fourth element is **EXECUTION** of instructions by the quickest, most efficient and economical means possible with careful regard for people, environment and correct channels of communication.

5 - Finally, there is the **CONTROL** element. Here we mean reviewing the four previous steps to insure that all the elements are in harmony, and that the objective is within reach or has been attained through the use of proper procedures.

PROGRESS OUR MOST IMPORTANT GOAL

Allied with control is follow through so that each person involved becomes aware of progress and results. This really involves each of us because carrying out a specific task often begins with a report to our immediate superior which could be the Foreman, or Maintenance Superintendent, District Engineer, Bureau Director, our Executive office, or the Governor and ultimately through the Governor to the people of the Commonwealth -- to whom the Governor directly and each of us indirectly, are responsible.

In the Highway Department, we must have coordinated management of vast and small programs such as budgeting, the construction program, the recent conversion of maintenance employees to a salaried basis, and others like the recently completed U. S. Savings Bond Campaign and the United Fund-Community Chest Campaign now underway.

In sum, the management function, based on these five elements, is an unending process which must be continually sharpened and refined with the goal of finding better ways of doing given jobs. To paraphrase a leading U. S. manufacturing corporation, progress should be our most important goal. The management function provides the key to balanced progress.

DISTRICT 6

Paul J. Gallagher, Right of Way Administrator, will be honored at a testimonial dinner on October 11 at the Bella Villa Inn, Route

202 near King of Prussia.

Gallagher, who lives in Malvern, has been associated with the Department since 1953 when he was appointed an assistant right-of-way supervisor.

DISTRICT 11

District 11-0 (Pittsburgh) received a new Bell system teletypewriter Aug. 2. It enables the district to send data directly into the Burroughs computer in Harrisburg where all data is processed and transmitted by remote control. Answers are received directly from the computer in a matter of minutes. The machine is operated by Lois Jene Carington, who also is the operator of the IBM magnetic tape/selectric typewriter.

Edward F. Wojtaszski of the Right Of Way Unit has been promoted to the position of Right Of Way Administrator of District 2, Clearfield County.

Marven M. Brenner has been promoted to Real Estate Specialist 4 in charge of scheduling and review operations of the Right Of Way Unit for the district. He also is an instructor for Penn State Continuing Education Course in Real Estate Right Of Way.

DISTRICT 5

Charles T. Bonawitz, a maintenance foreman from Schuylkill County won \$25 Savings Bond in the Safety Slogan Contest conducted by Oscar C. Smith, district safety advisor. The winning slogan:

"A Crutch Will Support A Man But Not His Family."

Miss Barbara Darrow, clerk typist in Berks County was runnerup. Her slogan:

"Safety Is Written In Your Pay, You'll Find Out When You Lose A Day!"

"Highway Littering" Getting A Big Play

"Highway Littering" was the subject of a recent television and radio release by the Public Information Office, and reports show that both media are giving it a big play.

Proof came in the form of two "bills" marked "Paid In Full" from two Philadelphia radio stations which used the message 65 times in seven days, the air time for which would have cost a commercial sponsor \$1,066.

If the other 150 radio stations and 26 TV stations should use the message on a similar scale the value of the air time would be nearly \$100,000. TV and radio spots about Highways are being sent out on a regular basis by the PIO, under the direction of Henry L. Miller.

DISTRICT 9

Three district right-of-way employes have received certificates for completing the advanced review appraisal course. Certificates were presented by Thomas Colantino, deputy district engineer, to James A. Botteicher of Altoona, chief appraiser; Patrick Laurito of Patton, review appraiser; and Amos Snyder of Bedford, assistant review appraiser.

PDH has joined the American Red Cross in a program providing certain small items for servicemen in Vietnam as Christmas gifts.



Orientation For New Employees

The Central Office Bureau of Personnel, through its Training and Recruitment Division, is conducting its second Department Orientation For New Employees. Five three-hour sessions (one session per week) are scheduled with the final one on Tuesday, Oct. 3. Secretary Bartlett welcomed the group of 24 new employees in the opening session. Other speakers included administrative and bureau directors. John Harhigh, director of Bureau Personnel, discusses organization and functions of his bureau. Question and answer periods follow each speaker.

United Fund Drive Month

October is United Fund and Community Chest month.

John L. Burkhardt Jr., executive assistant, is serving as chairman for the Highways Department at the request of Secretary Bartlett.

All employees are encouraged to participate. It is the hope that each of us will contribute at least \$.50 per pay period which would be slightly more than \$1 per month.

For the fifth straight year payroll deductions may be used, thus enabling you to budget your contributions.

Employees may designate payroll deduction amounts to any community campaign fund in Pennsylvania, thus affording commuting employees an opportunity to give to their home community fund.

A year ago PDH exceeded its assigned goal. Employees reside in 120 different campaign areas.

RETIREMENTS

Francis V. Donnelly, of 500 Cochran Drive, Greensburg, District 12-0 Construction Inspector I, 12 years service, effective Sept. 9.

Frank A. Philbin, of 177 Cemetery St., Archbald, District 4-0 Design Engineer II, 29 years service, effective Sept. 9.

Hazel M. McGready, of 40 Third St., York Haven, Central Office Clerk II, Bureau of Public Information, 12 years service, effective Sept. 27.

Beautification And An Employee

Beautification not only is where you find it, but also where you make it.

It's more or less expected to be part of your own property, but few develop it elsewhere.

An exception is the Greene County Maintenance Office at Waynesburg RD 2. Pansies, petunias and rose bushes brought new beauty to the setting this past summer.

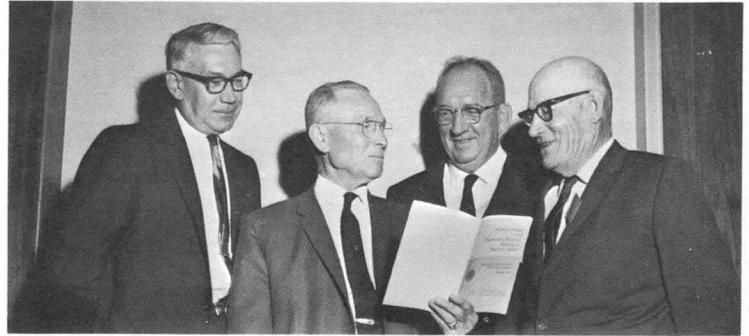
It was not planned, or the result of an executive order, or even a suggestion. Flowers and beauty are a hobby with Willis John, an automotive serviceman in the county office for more than a year, and he just took his hobby along to work.

Whenever there was a break in the work load John could be found putting his hobby to use, but Allen K. Milliken, county superintendent, said much of the work was done during off-work hours. And, naturally Willis provided his own plants.

Thomas J. Brophy, of 102 Lafayette St., Olyphant, District 4-0 Draftsman II, 32 years service, effective Sept. 27.

George G. Johnston, of 110 Main St., Towanda, District 4-0 Engineer Assistant, four years service, effective Sept. 27.

William M. Dougherty, of 216 N. 10th St., Easton, District 5-0 Materials Engineers, 12 years service, effective Sept. 29.



In "Training" For Old Man Winter

PDH has a team of experienced leaders in "Fall Training" for the approaching battle with Old Man Winter. Team captain is Harvey W. Gehr, assistant chief engineer in charge of maintenance (33 years of service). On Sept. 20 the 66 county superintendents, for the first time in 27 years, gathered in Harrisburg to review plans and participate in workshops. From left are Bernard Frick, operations engineer; Gehr; Joseph A. Kling, York County superintendent; and McClay Gibson, Cumberland County superintendent.

Letters

Dear Sirs:

About 8:30 p.m. on Sept. 2 my car ran out of gas (gas malfunction) on the Delaware Expressway. In about 10 minutes your Bucks County unit appeared. Without any preamble they gave me gas, a battery hot-shot and I was on my way in about three minutes.

Aside from the accident-prevention service rendered, they performed their duties quickly, efficiently and cheerfully. I again offer my thanks to these men and your service.

Sincerely,
Thomas J. Flood
Philadelphia, Pa.

1,400 Join U.S. Savings Bond Plan

Nearly 1,400 employees enrolled in PDH's U. S. Savings Bond drive during August. The total was 1,363 with several reports still among the missing in late September.

The total showed an increase of 50 per cent, but was only slightly more than one third of the Department's goal of 3,929. Prior to the drive the number of participants was 2,931. PDH has approximately 21,000 employees.

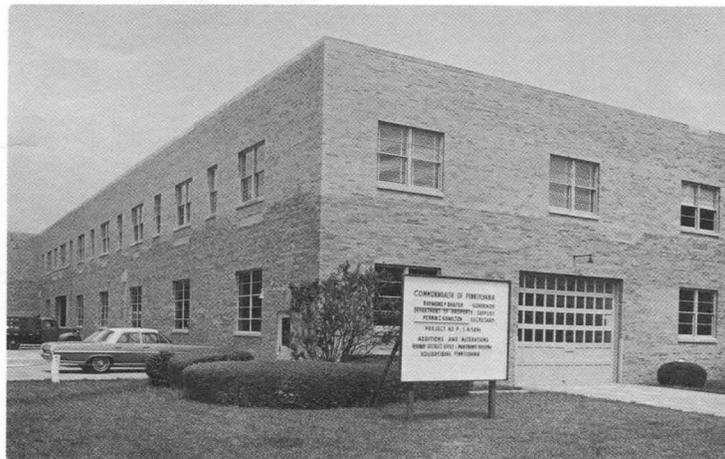
Bureaus or offices meeting or exceeding their goals were Executive, Personnel, Office-Services, Chief Engineer (including Operations Review Group), and districts 1-3 (Forest County), 3-3 (Montour County), 11-1 (Allegheny County), and 12-5 (Westmoreland County).

Hearings Set On Road Needs

A new round of state-wide public hearings to assure Pennsylvania's continuous six-year highway improvement program, begins Oct. 10 - 11 in the Central Office and concludes April 10, 1968 in District 12 (Uniontown).

The tentative public hearing schedule:

Oct. 10-11, Central Office; Nov. 1, District 1; Nov. 15, District 2; Nov. 29, District 3; Dec. 13, District 4; Jan. 4, District 5; Jan. 17-18, District 6; Jan. 31, District 8; Feb. 14, District 9; Feb. 28, District 10; March 13-14, District 11; and April 10, District 12.



New heights. A second floor addition to the District 9 headquarters building in Hollidaysburg was completed in late July. It provides an additional 17,223 square feet of floor space to meet the expanding needs of the five-county area which has 3,930 miles of highway under its jurisdiction. Construction cost was \$544,859.

'68 Bid Opening Schedule Listed

PDH, for the first time, has announced a tentative schedule for the opening of improvement contract bids a year in advance.

V. W. Anckaitis, deputy secretary and chief engineer, said by establishing a schedule for the upcoming year constructors will have an opportunity to do some preliminary planning in advance.

The 1968 schedule:

January 5 and 19; February 2 and 16; March 7 and 21; April 6 and 19; May 10 and 24; June 7 and 21; July 12 and 26; August 9 and 23; September 6 and 20; October 11 and 25; November 8 and 22; and December 6 and 20.



CAROLYN McPEEK

State Archery Title Won By Carolyn McPeek

There's a State champ in our ranks!

Department employes are known throughout the State for their many achievements, both in their line of work with PDH and in community service activities, and the latest to gain statewide fame is Carolyn McPeek, clerk typist in the Wilkes-Barre Maintenance Office.

She is Pennsylvania's Class A Women's Instinctive Division champion in archery.

Carolyn captured the coveted honors Sept. 9-10-11 in the Pennsylvania Archery Championships on the Penn State University campus.

She and her husband, who also is a crack shot, are possessors of many archery medals. They reside at 64 Yale St., Wilkes-Barre.

PROMOTIONS

Richard T. Fox, of 507 East Third St., Oil City to assistant district engineer in charge of construction, District 1, Sept. 14.

John R. Ribblett, of Johnstown RD 1 from assistant superintendent to superintendent of Cambria County, District 9-3, Sept. 27.

Harold P. Trent, from foreman to assistant superintendent of Cambria County, District 9-3, Sept. 27.

Penbrook Borough, east of Harrisburg, is the first of the state's 2,559 municipalities to be reimbursed for partial cost of updating its traffic control signal system to confirm with national standards.

What's New!

Pennsylvania had 623 highway improvement projects under construction during August, and for the first time the total cost exceeded \$1 billion.

Projects contracts totaled \$1,009,990,554. A year ago 589 contracts were active and the value was \$832,201,476.

Highways Secretary Bartlett said, "The acceleration of our activities is reflected by the State Highways Commission and its long range road building program now successfully in operation."

Contract bids were opened Aug. 25 for nine projects to improve nearly 23 miles of highways. Unofficial low bids totaled \$10,606,713.

Traffic line painting crews applied white and yellow stripes, vital to motor safety, on approximately 10,000 miles of roadway through September 1. An additional 7,000 miles remained on the 1967 schedule.

Bids were opened September 8 for seven highway improvement projects covering 2.23 miles. Low bids totaled \$721,894.

A one-hour documentary color television program "Cobblestones To Concrete" on the Highway Department was presented Aug. 28 by WHP-TV (Harrisburg). The program emphasized the new approach to management and efficiency within PDH and the massive program underway to meet the transportation needs of the Commonwealth.

On September 1 there were 11,646 maintenance employes in PDH. This is a decrease of 132 from August's total, and is attributed to the termination of work by summer employes. Maintenance personnel now on salary.

The Right-Of-Way Bureau has completed work on a new manual of Procedures for its operations.

Lt. Col George R. Halliwell, who was employed by PDH for several years after World War II as a draftsman-Designer, recently led his Air Force fighter squadron in a night strike over North Vietnam, knocking out a convoy of big trucks heading for the South. He is from Pittsburgh.

Arm-Flag Waving Signals Of Surveyors On Way Out



RONALD R. CHARLES

1,200 Motorists Given An Assist

Nearly 1,200 motorists were assisted by the Department's test emergency aid patrols over the Labor Day weekend on 700 miles of Interstate highway.

With 30 vehicles on patrol the average was nearly one assist per patrol vehicle per hour.

Secretary Bartlett said initial reports demonstrated the life-saving value of the program, and immediately scheduled a continuance of the test program for the Thanksgiving Day weekend.

PDH Hard Hat 'Life Saver'

Several months ago a Highways employe considered resigning because his hard hat, which this year was made mandatory for all field personnel, "produced" a headache. Just the other week another employe owed his life, at least serious facial injury, to the hard hat.

H. Mark Swanger, District 8 safety advisor, reported this incident:

Carl W. Matthews, Adams County equipment operator, was loading H-1 material into a tank when some of the hot oil mixture, 300 degree fahrenheit, spilled over him.

Matthews suffered first and second degree burns of the arms, but the hard hat prevented more intensive burns by deflecting the hot oil which could have resulted in serious facial injury.

Arm and flag waving signals always will be a necessary part of human survival, but to the surveying crews of the State Highways Department the communications system rapidly is fading from the scene.

Vanishing is the picturesque arm waving as crews stake out highway paths through fields, woodland and across streams. Remaining is the same number of crewmen, but the electronic age has spawned an instrument resulting in greater productivity without the familiar trademark.

Just as walkie-talkies have become standard equipment with law enforcement officers on patrol, so are they becoming essential to the surveying crew as the transit level, plumb-bob measuring tape.

The walkie-talkies, first tried experimentally by the Highways Departments two years ago, currently are in use in each of the Department's 11 engineering districts.

"They are a more efficient and accurate method of communication," said John H. Fox, chief of surveys for the nine-county Harrisburg district. "Time and accuracy are of major importance," he continued, "and the walkie-talkies bring vast improvement in both areas."

Fox explained that time is saved by both the instrument man and the crewman using the plumb-bob since neither needs to take time out to signal changes while establishing line and grade. A crewman can move the plumb-bob while listening to the instrument man through the walkie-talkie hanging by his side with the aid of a shoulder strap.

Greater accuracy is attained especially when crewmen are working in areas separated by several hundred feet. "Voice directions," Fox added, "are more easily followed than arm signals."

OBITUARIES

George H. Enders, 64, of 139 E. Philadelphia St., York, Design Bureau Draftsman II, Sept. 10.

Leroy H. Deibert, 50, of New Cumberland RD 1, District 8, Construction Inspector II, Aug. 30.

Max W. Paulhamus, 39, of 113 N. Washington St., Montoursville, District 3 Design Engineer I, Sept. 7.

Joseph P. Anthony, 58, of 2713 Chestnut St., Ardmore, District 6 Materials Inspector I, Aug. 16.