



News Release

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Larry Banks receives deFleury Award

VICKSBURG, Miss., May 23, 2005 - Mr. Larry E. Banks recently received the Bronze deFleury Medal in recognition of his outstanding service to the Mississippi Valley Division and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Banks is Chief of the Watershed Division.

DeFleury medals are a means by which the Corps honors those individuals who have provided significant contributions to Army Engineering. Bronze medals are awarded to individuals who have rendered significant service or support to an element of the Engineer Regiment. The Bronze deFleury Medal is the third highest award of the entire Engineer Regiment (following the Gold and Silver deFleury medals, respectively).

Mr. Banks received the surprise award during an open house event celebrating the Mississippi River Commission's 125th Anniversary. He was recognized for the selfless dedication, impeccable integrity and exceptional professionalism he has shown throughout his 34-year career with the Corps.

Upon receiving the award, Banks said, "This award is one I dearly appreciate and am quite humbled by. I believe that, as my dad once said, we don't own this river, we're just borrowing it for a while, and we must make sure it's taken care of for future generations."

Mr. Banks was instrumental in providing guidance, oversight and leadership in administering the watershed management functions of the Mississippi Valley Division. "My passion for the Corps' work of protecting the Mississippi Valley has always been spurred on by the great working relationships I've developed with various local levee districts, communities, individual landowners, MRC Commissioners and Federal and state agency professionals who really care about the welfare of the Mississippi River," stated Banks.

2-2-2/Banks Award

The Mississippi Valley Division is responsible for the Corps' water resources programs in a 370,000-square-mile area that includes portions of 12 states; its boundary extends from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. District offices are headquartered in St. Paul, Minn.; Rock Island, Ill.; St. Louis, Mo.; Memphis, Tenn.; Vicksburg, Miss.; and New Orleans, La. The presidentially appointed Mississippi River Commission is responsible for the comprehensive Mississippi River and Tributaries flood control and navigation project.



Larry Banks receives the Bronze deFleury Medal from Brigadier General Robert Crear, Commander of the Mississippi Valley Division and President-designee of the Mississippi River Commission.



Larry Banks accepts the Bronze deFleury Medal Award Citation from Brigadier General Robert Crear, Commander of the Mississippi Valley Division and President-designee of the Mississippi River Commission.