

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SNY ISLAND LEVEE DRAINAGE DISTRICT

2003 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

HISTORY IN THE MAKING

Did you ever stop to think that each day in our lives is the past, present and the future? At the onset of each and every day, so much lies in front of us; much to do. In many cases, at least for some of us, plans for the coming day, the immediate future, are made either the night before or early that very morning. Our future for that day is laid out in a nice, neat package. However, in the present, all too often chaos ensues; problems crop up, emergencies develop, equipment breaks down, plans change, the future changes. Or, once in a great while things go as planned. And at the end of the day, it's history; "another one in the book" so to speak. Sometimes those days are memorable because so much good has been accomplished, goals have been achieved or milestones have been reached. Other times, we'd just as soon forget them. Well, life in the Sny is no different than our lives on our farms, in our villages or at our places of business. We'll take a look at our "history" over this past year or so and talk a little bit about the present and future. *And when we really look at where we've been, we are experiencing truly historic times in the ongoing saga of life in the Sny, with much left to accomplish.*

100-YEAR CERTIFICATION

Much has been mentioned by the local news media over the last few weeks regarding the Sny having been certified for 100-year flood protection. One question that might be on some minds out there is exactly what is 100-year flood protection certification? The term means that our main stem Mississippi River levee and diversion channel levees are constructed to a specific elevation to withstand a river stage plus three feet of freeboard that has a one time in one hundred chance to be reached in any given year. The 100-year river elevation on the Hannibal gauge is roughly 26.57' and on the Louisiana gauge it's



about 24.19'. However the 100-year status also is relative to interior flooding that may be caused by a significant rainfall event throughout the District and its watershed that has a one in one hundred chance of occurring each year. Our entire main stem river levee is 100-year certified along with most of the District's interior. The preliminary F.E.M.A. flood maps of the entire Sny have been

re-drawn. Those areas that are 100-year certified are well defined from those that are 50-year certified. We are currently working under a 90-day public review period that will end on March 10, 2004. At the end of the review period, if no modifications are made to the maps, the impacted communities and counties, as well as the Sny, will receive a “Letter of Final Determination” officially approving the re-drawn maps. The counties and communities impacted may then formally adopt the maps for required use. Until that time, building permits may still be issued using the revised, re-drawn maps.

Another question frequently asked is of what benefit is this to the local landowner? Landowners in those areas with 100-year status may invest in those homes, farms or other places of business with much fewer, if any, restrictions being placed on them. In addition, those areas with 100-year protection will have lower flood insurance requirements than those that do not. An additional benefit that is often forgotten is that the 100-year status enhances the opportunity for regional economic development in the Sny. It is much more beneficial for large businesses or industries to locate in an area with 100-year flood protection status than those that do not. The potential for growth is dramatic.

The Sny’s having achieved 100-year flood protection status also has tremendous historical significance. The FEMA contractor working with the Sny on the review and ultimate certification indicated that **the Sny’s Letter of Map Revision (100-year status) could be the largest ever completed in the United States.** This could never have been achieved without the work of Klingner & Associates (the Sny’s consulting engineers), the cooperation of the Rock Island District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the local support of the Village Boards of Hull and Pleasant Hill and the County Boards in Pike, Calhoun and Adams Counties. The success of our application for re-certification also hinged on the support given regionally by Congressmen Leonard Boswell of Iowa, Kenny Hulshof of Missouri, Jerry Costello, John Shimkus, Ray LaHood and Lane Evans of Illinois and Senators Christopher “Kit” Bond and Jim Talent of Missouri and Dick Durbin and Peter Fitzgerald of Illinois. If ever there was a team effort, this was it. And the team was spread out from northeast Missouri, southeast Iowa and west-central Illinois all the way to Washington, D.C., with your Sny leading the charge.

SNY DREDGING PROJECT



Noted earlier in this publication, our 100-year certification was probably the largest of its kind ever done in the country. Along that same vein, we believe that our dredging project, initiated on October 23, 2002, is the only one of its kind being done by a levee and drainage district on the Mississippi River, if not the entire country.

Originally started as a project to strengthen the Sny river levees as protection against ever increasing flood threats, it cannot be



**Dredge Anchor Construction
Sny Staff**

emphasized enough that the 100-year certification would not have happened without the dredging project. The engineering work done on the 100-year levee certification application showed that a major portion of the cross-section of the river levee in Reach II was deficient. If necessary slope improvements were not started immediately over most of Reach II, the 100-year certification would not have been granted.

The balance of the Sny's 54 miles of main stem river levee in the remaining three reaches required only minimal extra attention.

Therefore, the levee-strengthening project was begun and continues as of this report in Reach II, with 2.7 miles of river levee completed.

Our goal is to finish 3 miles by the end of this season. We will dredge as long as the weather holds. In 2002 we were able to work up to December 23. In April of this year the Sny

staff added to our dredge project equipment needs by reclaiming a sunken barge in the river by re-plating the bottom and part of the sides. The staff also added a hydraulic lift system to assist in raising the swing and tail anchors that stabilize and allow the dredge to work. A spud pole system was also installed by the staff to facilitate anchoring the barge at strategic areas along the river.



**Dredge
Barge & Workboat**



Sny Cat Shaping Discharge Channel

The work being completed includes the placement of enough sand on the landside slope of the river levee to widen the top of the levee from its current 10' width to from 12'-13' wide with a minimum 5 to 1 slope. In many places a 2'-3' thick berm is being placed at the landside toe of the levee. When complete, each levee station will have enough material on the slope to allow for a "pushup" similar to that of the Great Flood of '93 and still have a 5 to 1 slope

on the landside of the levee. Since the slopes in Reach II showed the most deficiency, the amount of sand needed to provide the desired slope will be the highest. Therefore, progress in Reach II will most likely be the slowest. The work is accomplished by constructing a channel at the toe of the existing levee that the sand dredged from the river along with river



Sny 350L Working Dredge Discharge

water is discharged into. The sand drops out in the channel while the water flows away into District ditches. River water resulting from dredge material placement in Reach II ultimately flows back into the river at Pump Station 3A at Pleasant Hill. As the sand builds up in the channel, the Sny's Cat 350L trackhoe is used to place the material along the landside slope of the levee. The D6R works to maintain the discharge channel levee so the water doesn't break through, spilling water and sand out on adjacent fields. As progress is made downstream, the D6R is then used to complete the finished levee slope behind the 350L. A major reason for the tremendous progress being made daily on this project is the effort by Willard Lynch, Scott McKee and Lewis Wells, our heavy equipment operators.



Deficient Levee Slope-Cincinnati Landing



Dredged Sand Placed On Land Side Slope



Cat D6R Beginning Slope Work



Col. Williams, St. Louis Corps Commander, Tours Dredge Site

Plans for 2004 call for dredging work to continue as the weather and river conditions permit. While the Reach II project moves forward, we will initiate efforts to secure the necessary permits to begin work in Reach I. It is our goal to complete Reach II by the end of 2004 and begin in Reach I in the spring of 2005.

At the same time that the Sny staff is working to strengthen our river levees in Reach II, we continue to work with the Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to use

Corps resources to strengthen levees also. Over the last few years, nearly one mile of main stem river levee was strengthened using material hydraulically dredged from the south approach to Lock & Dam 22 and placed on the landside slope of our levee in that area. Just this month the Corps finished placing several thousand yards of sand on the landside slope of the levee at the north end of Reach II. This material was mechanically removed from the south approach to the dam and barged to our offload site. To date, more than a 1,000' of north end of Reach II has been significantly strengthened at no cost to the Sny



SNY DITCH MAINTENANCE

Even though the dredging project and its many demands keep Sny staff and heavy equipment busy much of the year, ditch maintenance remains a vital function of the District. In 2003, 25.57 miles of District ditches were cleaned. With the drainage district being responsible for the condition of nearly 300 miles of "district ditches" and 38 miles of approach channels, we rely heavily on the landowners and/or tenant farmers to keep us informed if drainage problems develop in a certain area. If you notice a problem in your area, please notify the District Superintendent. The condition of the ditch will be checked out as soon as possible with appropriate action taken to resolve problems found. If there is a question as to whether or not a ditch is the Sny's responsibility, contact the office and a determination will be made.

Even though ditches are clean, if tubes used for field drainage or crossings are not properly taken care of, poor drainage will result. We continue to urge landowners to utilize tubes at ditch access points for drainage of low areas of fields. More times than not, plugs in ditches occur where low areas drain directly into ditches rather than through tubes. The Sny maintains an excellent inventory of both plastic and galvanized tubes as well as flapgates for your convenience. As has always been the case, if the District equipment is working on a ditch that requires the installation of a tube, the Sny staff will install the tube for the landowner. However, the Sny will not guarantee any installation for proper flow and will not be responsible for damage that occurs to the tube or area crops resulting from the installation. Also, please remember that Hancor plastic tubes will burn if left unattended while burning your ditch.

THE PUMP STATIONS

The 2003 pumping season was about normal as pumping goes in the District. Our three pumping facilities have a combined capacity of about 1,100,000 gallons of water per minute at peak efficiency. Under the leadership of our fulltime resident operators, "Butch" Sturtevant, Lewis Wells and Bryan Chapman, our pump station staffs are constantly striving to maintain the best possible facilities to help insure optimum drainage. This past year a major investment was made at each pump station when all

pump discharge outlets were equipped with flapgates fabricated at Awerkamp Machine in Quincy. The flapgate installations insure that potential backflow of the river into the discharge pipes is prevented from happening at any river stage. The pump stations are particularly vulnerable to this phenomenon during extremely high river stages when breaking the siphoning effect used to assist the efficiency of the pumping operation is difficult. If the siphon isn't broken during engine shutdown, the discharge water reverses and runs back into the station causing the engine to run backwards. If this occurs, the engine can be seriously damaged or ruined. The flapgates prevent this from happening. A major project scheduled for January of 2004 is the overhaul of engine #3 at Pump Station 3A with engine #1 potentially being done in 2005.



EQUIPMENT UPDATE

In every newsletter, we try to set aside a section to keep our landowners informed on our efforts to update Sny equipment assets. This year, we purchased a 2003 Ford F150 XL four-wheel drive pickup and a 2003 Ford F250 XL four-wheel drive pickup. These vehicles were purchased through competitive bidding from area truck dealerships in Quincy, Hannibal, Pittsfield and Barry. These vehicles were assigned to Willard Lynch and Scott McKee, our primary heavy equipment operators.



OFFICE OPERATIONS

Not only do we strive to continually upgrade the efficiency of our field operations, but attention is also focused daily on what has become a “state of the art” business office. Under the leadership of Administrative Assistant Yvonne Billings, the Sny’s Business Office has rapidly become the envy of drainage districts throughout the Mississippi Valley. Technically equipped with a modern computer system and mapping capabilities, Yvonne has worked to annually increase the accuracy and efficiency of a database containing more than 5,000 parcels of land. Already equipped with superior mapping and office skills and through attendance at continuing education opportunities, Yvonne

has fostered a high degree of professionalism in the daily contacts she makes with all of you in the Sny. A couple of ways that the landowners could assist our office with improving our database would be to carefully review your annual assessment statement to insure its accuracy and notify us in the office as soon as practical if you are involved in a Sny land transaction. Since our assessment statements are mailed in December annually, the owners of record of real estate at that time are responsible for the entire drainage assessment.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



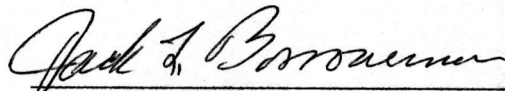
In observance of the upcoming holiday season, the Sny Business Office will be closed December 24, 25 & 31 and January 1.


Your Commissioners and Sny staff wish you and your families a most joyous and safe holiday season and best wishes for the coming New Year.

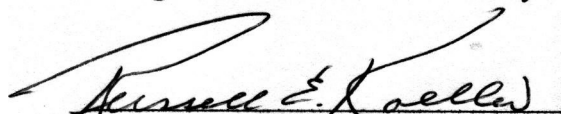
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial report included with this year's newsletter reflects audited figures for the fiscal year ending October 31, 2002.

If you would like to receive this year's or future newsletters electronically, please inform the Sny office as to your e-mail address.


Jack L. Borrowman – President


George D. Borrowman – Secretary


Russell E. Koeller - Commissioner

SNY ISLAND LEVEE DRAINAGE DISTRICT
STATEMENT OF REVENUES COLLECTED, EXPENSES PAID AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -
GENERAL ANNUAL MAINTENANCE FUND
YEAR ENDED OCTOBER 31, 2002

REVENUES COLLECTED

Annual Maintenance Collection		\$	786,118	
Intergovernmental-Disaster Income			97,182	
Interest			10,030	
Miscellaneous Income:				
Penalties and Advertising Costs	\$	1,046		
Material Sales - Net		15,537		
Miscellaneous		<u>1,842</u>	18,425	
Lease Income			10,901	
Farm Income			<u>7,685</u>	
<u>TOTAL REVENUES COLLECTED</u>				\$ 930,341

EXPENSES PAID

Current - General Government				
<u>General Administration:</u>				
Payroll	\$	89,772		
Office Supplies		11,612		
Building Utilities and Maintenance		11,131		
Insurance		34,813		
Legal and Audit		11,630		
Engineering		55,851		
Miscellaneous		<u>17,254</u>	232,063	
<u>Pumping Operations:</u>				
Payroll	\$	143,364		
Operating Expense		<u>287,231</u>	430,595	
<u>Heavy Equipment Operations:</u>				
Payroll	\$	97,423		
Equipment Expense		<u>42,082</u>	139,505	
<u>Other Operations:</u>				
Payroll	\$	459		
Equipment Expenses		46,136		
Pipe and Wire Rope		8,217		
Shop Supplies and Materials		10,627		
Brush Killer		13,353		
Levee Maintenance		31,825		
Other		<u>3,031</u>	113,648	
<u>Miscellaneous:</u>				
Payroll Taxes	\$	27,846		
Employee Health and Life Insurance		81,000		
Uniforms		<u>1,646</u>	110,492	
Capital Outlay			1,038,686	
<u>Debt Service:</u>				
Interest	\$	5,224		
Principal		<u>24,322</u>	29,546	
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES PAID</u>				2,094,535

<u>EXCESS OF REVENUES COLLECTED OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES PAID</u>	\$	(1,164,194)
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<u>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</u> - Transfers In		1,370,998
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<u>EXCESS OF REVENUES COLLECTED OVER (UNDER) EXPENSES PAID</u>		
<u>AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</u>	\$	206,804
Fund Balance, November 1, 2001		29,175
FUND BALANCE, OCTOBER 31, 2002	\$	<u>235,979</u>