

# CLEANER TIMES



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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

November 1977

## Summer of '67 - An Anniversary Remembered

"I was one of the first 26 people to move to Research Triangle Park from Cincinnati in August 1967," said Tom Clark, EMSL/ORD. "It was a traumatic experience to say the least. I had lived all my born days in the big city, and now I was being asked to pick up everything and move to some 'God forsaken place' I knew nothing about."

Tom's story, which has a happy ending, typifies most of the stories related by that initial group of pioneers who set out from the Ohio Valley, negotiated the Appalachian Mountains and finally arrived in the land of promise in North Carolina. "Durham was not Tobacco Row," as one employee put it, "but not far from it."

(Continued on page 2)

## Clean Air Act Amendments Require Yeoman Efforts from RTP Employees

When President Carter signed the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977 into law, the long, laborious legislative process came to an end, but for EPA the updated law means the beginning of a massive undertaking--implementing the changes. At Research Triangle Park EPA laboratories and offices must generate documentation on the effects of air pollutants on human health, the current state-of-the-art on control devices and techniques, and guidelines and regulations to assist States with revisions to the State Implementation Plans. In addition EPA must promulgate new regulations to deal with major new air pollution source categories.

(Continued on page 3)



Tom Clark, Tom Hartlage and Darryl von Lehmden recall the "good old days" when they first came to North Carolina ten years ago to work in George Walsh's basement until space was ready in Mutual Plaza.

In the long run, Tom Clark found that moving was one of the easiest things he's ever had to do. The reason, he explained, was the adaptability of his wife Susan. "She never complained and jumped right into local happenings, bridge clubs and antiques. Just give her a shopping center," Tom quipped, and "instant happiness."

"A few things were different from Ohio," said Tom. "No liquor by the drink and no traffic jams, but sales tax on groceries and State income tax." "I found, however," Tom continued, "I was still going to work every day with the same people, doing the same work, and in general doing what came naturally in my job. I hardly knew I had moved."

Gary McCutchen, ESED/OAQPS, remembers being happy to exchange Cincinnati's gloomy winters and fusty Laidlaw Building for southern skies and the open, airy Mutual Building. "But," he recalls, "there were disadvantages." "Everyone during that fall of 1967 was squeezed on to the 6th floor of the Mutual Building. No other facilities were available, and construction workers were preparing other floors for occupancy. There were no walls, no sound-absorbing panels or rugs, just bare concrete floors and pillars. A sea of gray book cases, file cabinets and desks stretched from wall to wall." Gary remembers the sound of numerous typewriters and voices echoing off concrete and glass, which made conversation and thinking difficult. Gary can't recall when all this settled down, but for him it was when he finally got walls, doors, tiled floors and, most importantly, breathing space.

Robert Kolbinsky, GSD/OA, recalls receiving VIP treatment from local chambers of commerce, realtors and university people. "Several communities were competing for the Yankee dollars, and the first three months was like rush season on fraternity row. Initially, we chose to live in Chapel Hill. Several of us had a car pool and the drive to Durham was through beautiful open countryside. The early days were like turning back the calendar to another time not unlike my childhood years in Ohio. The country/city lifestyle proved to be ideal for my growing family. We were afforded the opportunity to build our own house and barn; we cleared land like pioneers (but with a chain saw); and we found a new essence to living as Christians. On occasion we've had family discussions about returning to our native Cincinnati, but the conclusion is always the same. Carolina is our home for now."

George Walsh, ESED/OAQPS, remembers being kept on-the-fence, not knowing when the move would take place, where it would be, or whether he would want to move

when the time came. "Well, the decision came in late May of 1967 and we were in Durham in August. The move had its advantages," said George, "no parking problems, no rules or regulations concerning lunch half-hours or working hours. Over the past ten years the facilities have improved considerably and, of course, rules and regulations controlling working hours were formalized. Research Triangle has also grown, with giant shopping malls, four-lane highways, new housing developments, and many, many more people. In 1967 you went shopping in small stores operated by the owner; you could cash a check without identification. Now, you shop in chain stores operated by graduate students, and a credit card is more of a necessity than a convenience." "In 1967," George continued, "a traffic jam was four cars at a stop sign. Now traffic control is big-time with helicopters to let you know you went the wrong way."

What Tom Clark and many of the other adventurous individuals miss most about the early days is the close-knit friendship of those first pioneers. "We worked together, we partied together, we helped each other in every possible way," said Tom. "We found out where to get a good haircut, insurance, fencing, garages built, doctors, dentists, etc., and passed the information on to each other. Over the years we have drifted apart. We have new friends and seldom see our old buddies. Some have resigned, transferred, or retired. For this, I am quite sad," said Tom.

"All in all it was quite an adventure," Tom concluded, "but one I wouldn't trade. It has helped mature us and broadened our horizons to a much greater extent than if we had remained in one city for the rest of our lives."

Of the original group from Cincinnati, 24 still remain here as EPA employees:

Don Goodwin	Robert Kolbinsky
George Walsh	Robert Martin
Gary McCutchen	John McGinnity
Tom Clark	George Crane
Tom Hartlage	Ed Vincent
Darryl von Lehmden	Gene Smith
Stan Sleva	Jack Farmer
Dennis Holzschuh	Marty Martinez
Ed Hanks	Roger Shigehara
John O'Connor	Kirk Foster
Joseph Sableski	John Copeland
John Lang	Oscar Dowler

To this group of "founding fathers" the Cleaner Times extends its appreciation and best wishes in commemoration of this tenth anniversary.

# Glaucoma Test Available Free at EPA Health Unit

Glaucoma, an eye condition caused by abnormally high fluid pressure within the eyeball, can impair vision or even cause total blindness. Initially, peripheral vision is lost as nerve fibers are destroyed. Because it often takes several years before straight-ahead vision becomes affected, many victims are unaware of the problem and the gradual sight loss. It should be noted, however, that there is a form of glaucoma that strikes suddenly and progresses quickly to blindness.

Glaucoma occurs mostly in persons over 40 years of age and tends to run in families. Symptoms of the condition include:

- Halos and rainbows around lights.
- Side vision begins narrowing down.
- Change of glasses does not improve failing vision.
- Poor vision in dim light.
- Sporadic blurred vision.
- Headaches and eyeaches after watching TV in dark room.

EPA employees are fortunate to have a free glaucoma test available to them through the local Health Unit. A simple, painless, 10-minute test can determine whether the glaucoma condition exists. Eye fluid pressure is measured with a tonometer. Should eye pressure be above normal, the nurse or physician conducting the test will refer the employee to a private physician. An appointment can be made with the Health Unit by calling extension 2101.

## Flu Shots

Bivalent flu shots are available to EPA Civil Service employees and Public Health Service officers on Wednesday afternoons between the hours of 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. at the ERC Health Unit.

## Employee Health Plan Open Season Closes December 9

Brochures outlining the changes in employee health insurance policies are being provided to employees who must decide whether they want to enroll or change their current enrollment.

The Federal Employee Health Benefits "Open Season for 1977" will be held from November 14 through December 9, 1977.

Any employee desiring to enroll or change enrollment must complete a Health Benefit Registration Form (SF-2809) prior to December 9, 1977. These forms are available in the Personnel Management Division.

New enrollments or changes made during open season will become effective January 1, 1978.

CLEAN AIR ACT.... (cont'd from page 1)

Kent Berry of OAQPS states, "Virtually all of our Divisions have an important role in the task at hand. ESED is, of course, already devoting much of its resources to the new source performance standards, but the new legislation expands the scope of their involvement considerably. CPDD must respond to the needs of State governments in providing assistance with additional requirements involving State Implementation Plans. SASD must determine whether and how to regulate cadmium, arsenic, polycyclic organic materials, AND radioactive air pollutants. MDAD must develop guidelines for diffusion modeling and investigate the need for a Federal air pollution monitoring system."

"The new Act," Berry continued, "also gets into new areas such as visibility protection, prevention of significant deterioration of presently clean air, protection of the ozone layer and control of radioactive pollutants."

The time allotted for the numerous changes to be accomplished has created an almost frenetic work environment throughout the Agency. At the Office of Research and Development, according to Mike Berry (no relation to Kent), a Criteria and Special Studies group is attacking the gigantic job of providing information on health effects associated with eight major pollutants.

"We are working double time," says Mike. "We must intensify our efforts and have been given a very short time frame for completion. For instance, we must publish a criteria document for oxides of nitrogen by February 8, 1978, and this places an enormous burden on some of the Office of Research and Development employees. Before, we had up to seven years to complete such documents, but now we have only three months to two years. All of the previously published criteria documents must be rewritten by 1980!"

In order to achieve these goals, EPA has enlisted the help of numerous environmental research and engineering firms. Internally, EPA program planners have had to change priorities to accommodate the new legislation. Budgets have undergone major overhauls. Internal reorganization in the form of task forces has been necessary, and the services needed to support the added activities are being pushed to the limit.

All in all Congress has placed tremendous responsibilities on the collective shoulders of the employees of the Environmental Protection Agency. The Agency has been given substantial new responsibilities; Congress has continued its emphasis on strong environmental controls and indicated its belief that solving the energy problem can be compatible with a clean environment.

# Prepping for Mount Everest

by John Pratapas

Frank Bunyard, John O'Connor, John Pratapas, Ken Lloyd and Bill Hamilton, of SASD/OAQPS, spent October 22 and 23 hiking the wilderness trails of North Carolina's Mount Mitchell and Linville Gorge.

With "Mountain Goat" Bunyard setting a rigorous pace, the group conquered the Deep Gap Trail on the first day; on the second day they assaulted the Short-Off Trail. "Blister Foot" O'Connor manned the all-important rear position to provide ballast as the adventuresome team journeyed ever upward.

Hearty breakfasts were provided on the trail by "Hungry Jack" Pratapas. Comic relief was provided throughout the week-end as "Laser" Lloyd and "Mountain Goat" exchanged digs.

The itchy trigger finger of the "Pentax Kid" (Bill Hamilton) was hyperactive as he recorded the week-end on Kodacolor II.

Fine weather, spectacular fall foliage and good camaraderie provided a memorable week-end, both for the climbers and their wives who stayed at home.

## Civil Service Commission Revises Forms for Position Descriptions

After extensive consultation with Federal Agencies and the various unions that represent Federal employees, the U.S. Civil Service Commission will introduce a new position description form in early 1978.

The main function of the position description is to delineate an employee's major duties and responsibilities, and thus provide the basis for classifying and grading the position.

A key feature of the revised form is the incorporation of the supervisor's certification that the description is accurate. The revised form also requires that the person responsible for classification certify that the position has been graded in accordance with appropriate standards, and space is provided to list the standards used in classifying and grading the position.

Several other new features are intended to provide employees with more information about their positions and to help agencies in carrying out their personnel management functions. For example, the form notes whether the position is in the "competitive" or "excepted" service, whether the position is "exempt" or "non-exempt" from the Fair Labor Standards Act, whether the incumbent has to file a financial statement, and whether the position is supervisory or managerial.

## RTP Federal Credit Union Relaxes Policies, Extends Loans, Increases Services

A new policy for signature loans recently put into effect increases the borrowing power of credit union members tremendously. Members with one to three years Federal service can borrow up to 10 percent of their annual salary; members with three to five years service can borrow up to 15 percent, and members with more than five years service can borrow 20 percent. The maximum amount for signature loans, however, is limited to \$3,500.

If you are contemplating buying a van equipped with camping equipment, you may be interested in the five-year financing plan available for recreational vehicles. Passenger car loans for a full four years have replaced the previous 42-month maximum-term car loan.

Along with the changes in office policies and procedures, the credit union staff has been reorganized to provide greater efficiency and better service. Mary Pollard continues as the Office General Manager. Gladys Adams now handles payroll deductions, car titles and insurance. Wanda Stone is in charge of second mortgages and home improvement loans, and Peggy Clements has responsibility for delinquent accounts.

The newest member of the credit union staff is Christalle Deese, a part-time graduate student at the University of North Carolina. Ms. Deese assists with computer input and is in charge of issuing travelers checks, which are now available to credit union members without the customary fee. Members withdrawing savings for vacations may have their money in travelers checks rather than in cash.



Newcomer to Credit Union staff, Christalle Deese, operates terminal for new computer equipment.

## To Share Means You Care

Several organizations in Research Triangle Park have begun to gather donations for needy families for the Christmas Holiday. Many offices have a tradition of providing food and gifts for an indigent family.

Colleen Nicholson reports that the Experimental Biology Division of HERL is sponsoring a family for Christmas. Information about the needs of the family was obtained from the Durham Volunteer Services Bureau.

## Speaking Engagements

Roy L. Bennett, Chemical Engineer, ESRL, ORD, presented a paper, "Particulate Sulfur and Trace Metal Emissions from Oil-Fired Power Plants," at the 70th Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers recently held in New York City.

Ben Smith, Civil Engineer, ESED, OAQPS, spoke to members of the Forestry Club in Southern Pines, North Carolina, on the subject of Kraft Paper Mills.

Dale Denny, IERL, ORD, addressed a group of students in the Materials Engineering Department, North Carolina State University, on "Problems Associated with Industrial Processes in the United States."

John B. Clements, Chief, Quality Assurance Branch, EMSL, ORD, has been invited to present a technical paper and participate in a workshop on Air Pollution Reference Measurement Methods in Bilthoven, The Netherlands, December 12-16. The workshop, co-sponsored by the World Health Organization, will be held at the National Institute of Public Health in Bilthoven.

## Air Pollution Technical Institute Schedule of Up-Coming Courses

November 28 - December 2, 1977 - RTP  
AIR POLLUTION MICROSCOPY - No. 420

December 5-9, 1977 - RTP  
STATISTICAL EVALUATION OF AIR POLLUTION DATA - No. 426

December 6-9, 1977 - Portland, Oregon  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY - No. 431

December 12-16, 1977 - RTP  
CONTINUOUS EMISSION MONITORING - No. 474

December 12-16, 1977 - Orlando, Florida  
DISPERSION OF AIR POLLUTION - THEORY AND APPLICATION - No. 423

## Brain Teaser

by Frank Clay

Shortly before the Civil War, Wendell Phillips, the abolitionist, found himself on a train with several southern clergymen on their way to a conference. When the Southerners learned that Phillips was aboard the train, they decided to have some fun at his expense. One of them confronted Phillips and asked, "Are you Wendell Phillips?" "Yes, I am," replied Phillips. "Are you the great abolitionist?" asked the Southerner. "I am not great, but I am an abolitionist," answered Phillips. "Are you not the one who makes speeches in Boston and New York against slavery?" asked the clergyman. "Yes I am," said Phillips. "Why don't you go to Kentucky and make speeches there?" queried the clergyman. Wendell Phillips looked at the Southerner for a moment and then asked, "Are you a clergyman?" "Yes, I am," replied the clergyman. "Are you trying to save souls from Hell?" asked Phillips. "Yes," was the answer. Phillips then asked, "----, --- ---- -- ----?"

What was the reply of Wendell Phillips? To find out, use the information below.

1. The reply is made up of 21 letters, consisting of one or more of the following: D E G H L N O R T U W Y.
2. The six words of the reply have the following number of letters respectively: 4, 3, 4, 3, 2, 5.
3. No letter is used more than three times, and "u" is used but once.
4. Numbering the letter spaces from left to right, the following letters are identical: (2 & 21) (19 & 21) (1 & 5) (6 & 18) (3 & 4) (9 & 13) (16 & 9) (7 & 12).
5. Letter groups symmetrically equidistant from the ends of the alphabet are: (8 & 1) (11 & 15) and (4 & 9).
6. Writing the second half of the alphabet immediately under the first half of the alphabet (A over N) the following letter groups would appear over/under each other. (2 & 20) (15 & 17) (6 & 14) (4 & 7).
7. Vowels are found in spaces 2, 9, 13, 16, 19, & 21.

The answer to the Brain Teaser may be found on page 6.

## Air Pollution Control Association- Annual Meeting

Albert Thomas Convention Center--Houston, Texas  
June 25-29, 1978

Authors should complete APCA Annual Meeting Proposal Form and return it by December 1, 1977 to:

Hal B. H. Cooper, Technical Chairman  
University of Texas at Austin  
Department of Civil Engineering  
Austin, Texas, USA 78712

## Conferences and Seminars

November 28 - December 2, 1977

A joint conference on Applications of Air Pollution Meteorology sponsored by the American Meteorological Society and the Air Pollution Control Association will be held at the Hotel Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah. Contact: Loren W. Crow, 3064 S. Monroe, Denver, Colorado 80210.

December 8-9, 1977

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Information Center, National Asphalt Pavement Association and the Air Pollution Control Association will sponsor a seminar in Salt Lake City, Utah, on the asphalt industry's environmental solutions. Contact: Mike Taylor, JACA Corporation, 506 Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania 19034.

January 12-13, 1978

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Information Center, National Asphalt Pavement Association and the Air Pollution Control Association will sponsor a seminar in Tampa, Florida on the asphalt industry's environmental solutions. Contact: Mike Taylor, JACA Corporation, 506 Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania 19034.

January 17-19, 1978

A three-day seminar, focused on resolving corrosion problems, is being sponsored by the Air Pollution Control Association, the Industrial Gas Cleaning Institute and the National Association of Corrosion Engineers. It will be held at the Atlanta Hilton, Atlanta, Georgia. Contact: Dale Miller, Assistant Executive Director, NACE, P.O. Box 1499, Houston, Texas 77001.

January 26-27, 1978

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Information Center, National Asphalt Pavement Association and the Air Pollution Control Association will sponsor a seminar in Phoenix, Arizona, on the asphalt industry's environmental solutions. Contact: Mike Taylor, JACA Corporation, 506 Bethlehem Pike, Fort Washington, Pennsylvania 19034.

~~~~~  
Old postmen never die; they just lose their zip.

~~~~~  
Old organists never die; they just become less organized.

~~~~~  
TEASER ANSWER: "Well, why don't you go there?"

## Quality Increases

~~~~~  
John B. Fink - OAQPS  
Ronald L. Bradow - ESRL

## EPA Employees Perform with Durham Symphony Orchestra

Nancy Keeler Wilson, Robert Zehr and John Summerhays are members of the Durham Symphony Orchestra. Their most recent concert, at Durham High School Auditorium, was a gala complete with an on-stage reception after the performance.

Soloist for the occasion was Rivka Mostow, a cellist from Israel presently residing in Raleigh, N. C., and teaching at Duke and Meredith. Miss Mostow was featured in Boccherini's "Concerto for Cello and Orchestra."

The Orchestra performed Beethoven's "Egmont Overture" and Shubert's "Symphony No. 7."

Ms. Wilson, a research chemist in HERL, plays the oboe; Mr. Zehr, also a chemist with HERL, is a string bass player; and Mr. Summerhays, another chemist with MDAU, is a cellist.

In addition to providing enjoyment for the performers and the public attending the concerts, the Durham Symphony has prepared Durham Symphony: A Guide for Young People, which is being distributed in the community. They also hold open rehearsals to provide a learning situation for interested observers.

## EPA Employees Fall Below Blood Quota

For the past several months, EPA employees have been providing about 20 pints of blood to the local Red Cross. Our quota is 30 pints per month.

In support of the Red Cross Blood Donor Program, EPA permits its employees to take four hours of administrative leave each time they donate blood.

If you have given regularly in the past, you may want to resume participation to help meet the quota. If you have never given blood and are considering doing so, contact Ms. Elaine Hyman at extension 2951. Upcoming dates for EPA employees to give blood are December 2 and 16 and January 6 and 20.

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Elaine Hyman.....Co-Editor/Reporter  
Dorothy Rose.....Co-Editor/Reporter

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# Social Awareness Lectures Planned by Personnel Division

Jim McDuffie and Norman Eubanks of the Personnel Management Division, Office of Administration, have organized a series of lectures entitled, "Life Experience Seminar." The lectures will be held at OAQPS, ORD and OA simultaneously during lunch time, from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m., and will begin on November 28 and end on December 2.

"We want to give employees some insight into problems and situations confronting people in today's society," said Eubanks. "The idea is to increase the awareness of employees so that they will be able to recognize and cope with some of these problems should they occur in their families or in the lives of fellow employees."

He continued, "We have been able to obtain local people to speak on social abuses encountered by them in their

work in our community. These people are all highly respected in their fields, and we are pleased that they have consented to participate in our program."

Hassle House in Durham will provide Peggy Tatum to speak on rape and Peter Kramer to speak on the past, present and future of drugs in our society. From the Lincoln Community Center Ms. Kay Patterson will present information about alcoholism. Child abuse will be covered by Lawrence Stegall, Margaret Thorne and James Polk of the Child Advocacy Commission. Coping with stress will be discussed by Dr. Sally Feather, Anne Brown and Hazel Wishnov from the Durham Community Mental Health Center.

The agenda for the entire week-long program is given below.

## SEMINAR AGENDA

TIME: 12:00 - 1:30

BLDG.	Nov. 28	Nov. 29	Nov. 30	Dec. 1	Dec. 2	LOCATION
Mu	Rape	Child Abuse	Drugs	Alcohol	Stress	N C. Mutual Building 5th Floor Conference Rm
ERC	Child Abuse	Drugs	Alcohol	Stress	Rape	ERC Auditorium Hwy. 54 & Alexander Dr Research Triangle Park
Beau	Drugs	Alcohol	Stress	Rape	Child Abuse	Administration Building Auditorium, Alexander Dr. Research Triangle Park

## LOCAL RESOURCES

### ALCOHOLISM:

DURHAM	682-5713	682-5227
WAKE	832-1897	
ORANGE	929-4723	

### CHILD ABUSE:

DURHAM	682-1129
WAKE	733-3111
ORANGE	Call Durham number

### DRUGS:

DURHAM	688-8244 or 688-4353
WAKE	832-4460
ORANGE	929-7177

### STRESS:

DURHAM	688-4366
WAKE	834-6484
ORANGE	929-4723
	929-2512

### RAPE:

DURHAM	688-4353
WAKE	782-3060
ORANGE	Call Chapel Hill
CHAPEL HILL	967-RAPE



# Thanksgiving - A Time for Sharing

On Thursday, November 24, Americans will take time out from their busy lives to observe Thanksgiving, a day set aside by our forefathers to thank God for His abundant provision.

The Cleaner Times interviewed several employees to find out what in particular they are thankful for this year.

"I have so many things to be thankful for," said Martha Eubanks, FMD, OA, "excellent health and a recent promotion that affords new and exciting responsibilities, but most important, sharing with wonderful friends during weekly Christian fellowship luncheons."

Carole Sawicki, ESRL, ORD, told us, "I am thankful to be alive and well and living with my husband (Dr. Eugene Sawicki, ESRL, ORD) in this fantastic century we all share together." With a genuine expression of sincerity, Carole smiled and replied, "I am also thankful for close friends who helped me through a difficult time when my father passed away this year."

"The past year and a half has been the most difficult period of my life," said Beverly Tilton, Criteria and Special Studies, ORD, "as I've battled a major illness. At the same time I have been involved in the preparation of many drafts of two problematic criteria documents, but through it all God has sustained me with His strength and power, for which I am highly grateful. Close friends and fellow employees have been a further source of help and encouragement," she continued. "This Thanksgiving I have much to be grateful for including nearly complete recovery."

"Our Commander in Chief's (President Carter) Commander in Chief (Jesus Christ) instructed us to heal the sick," said Dr. Ralph Larsen, ESRL, ORD. "Polluted air and water not only sicken people, but they also make the environment look sick. I am thankful for the opportunity of serving in a small way in EPA to help remove the sickness from our land." "And," he continued, "I am thankful for the opportunity of working with fine managers and associates in this important task."

Miriam Harper, GSD, OA, a recent widow, was able to show a bright smile when asked the question. She sighed, paused for a moment, and said, "A whole lot! I love my job, I'm supporting my children, and look at me, I'm standing on my own two feet!"

Essie Williams, CMD, OA, with special exuberance said, "There is so much to be thankful for. I'm thankful that I am saved. I have my strength and health, and eternal life."



Catherine Golden, ESRL/ORD, said, "I am truly thankful for my job. At 60, and I'm not ashamed of my age, I have a supervisor who has given me the opportunity to do the best work of my life."

"The smaller things in life are most important, really," said Dr. Ron Bradow, ESRL/ORD. "Frustrating, intractable nature, who gives up her secrets so erratically and so unpredictably, is too big and too much a part of a scientists' life," he continued. "We make progress so slowly and with such difficulty that sometimes I forget about the better part. Loving friends working together are more important to me than the progress we make. I am thankful to be alive in work I enjoy and with friends who love me and whom I love in return."

Many employees are thankful for the fact that they live here in North Carolina. Several people said they are thankful for their homes and families, opportunities for good educations, and living in a free society.

