

Capital College's Manager of Facilities to Retire

By Tom Boyle

Teamwork is something that Capital College's Manager of Facilities, Maintenance and Operations learned during his 30 years in the Army Corps of Engineers and it's what he is most proud of at Penn State, Harrisburg.

Joseph A. Kemp will retire July 1 after 13 years with maintenance and operations.

"You fill your positions with well qualified people and you become a team," said Kemp. "There are no stars...we all make up a team."

Kemp, a retired colonel in the Army Corps of Engineers, manages the existing facilities and assists with planning new construction on campus.

"Being an old military installation I found myself right at home," said Kemp. The Maintenance and Operations building is located next to the CRAGS building and has a staff of 49.

The Indiana native now lives in Colonial Park, but plans to move back to his hometown in Indiana after his retirement. He plans to build his own

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house on a 10 acre tract that he purchased last October. Planning for the house, to be located in Kempton, has been going on for five years.

Unlike some retirees, Kemp doesn't plan to travel. He traveled a lot during his years in the service during World War II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars. His job has been made interesting all these years because of daily changes and no two days are ever alike, said Kemp.

Kemp, a father of five and happily married for over 42 years, plans to spend his retirement landscaping and gardening after his house is built.



Joseph Kemp



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I Promise To Uphold The Constitution...



New SGA Senate being sworn in April 21 in BCAC (see related photo and story page 11.)

Photo by Jan Travers

China Visited Through the Eyes of HACC President Kenneth Woodbury

By Jan Travers

The International Affairs Association and Delta Tau Kappa recently played host to the Harrisburg Area Community College President Kenneth Woodbury during International Week.

Woodbury spent three weeks in the People's Republic of China last summer as a member of a delegation of 13 community college presidents who took part in a seminar on the Chinese education system.

China's education system has been undergoing a crash program of rebuilding since 1979, Woodbury explained. Prior to this time a revolution within the country had dismantled the system, sending professors and students to the fields to get in touch with the masses.

The education structure is overseen by the State Education Commission. The commission, similar to our Department of Education, is administered by the vice premier of the country.

Education in China is very competitive, according to Woodbury. There are only 1,000 undergraduate institutions compared to 3,000 for the United States. Only two percent of the one billion people ever gets to take advantage of higher education. No applicants past the age of 25 will be considered for entrance to the universities and after age 35 it is uncommon to see acceptance into an adult continuing education program.

By American standards, not a lot of money is funneled into the education system, because it just isn't available. The bulk of funds is spent on state-of-the-art equipment, including computers and electronic gadgetry. School buildings are poorly maintained, Woodbury stated. The surroundings are very stark and outdated, but in spite of this learning occurs.

Everywhere the delegation went they saw signs of how the system has changed. The intent behind showcasing the changes was two-fold. China's educators would like very much to have their American counterparts teach in their country on an exchange program. In addition, they would like the United States to invite their (China's) scholars, at the expense of the World Bank, to come to this country to study.

Woodbury termed the once in a lifetime trip a success and he is happy he had the opportunity. However, the trip was not without some discomfort. Transportation within the country was extremely uncomfortable. Travel on non-air conditioned trains and buses was unbearable as the nation was sweltering in a heat wave the likes of which hadn't been seen in nearly 70 years, he said. Because many of the colleges visited were located in agricultural and business districts, few cultural amenities were available. In addition, the type of food served was at the opposite end of the cultural spectrum from what the group was used to eating, including sea slugs, eel, quails eggs, and frogs legs.

The biggest surprise of the trip, said Woodbury, was that he was not prepared for how underdeveloped the nation was, but the most memorable part was the warmth of the people. Formality of tradition is the way of life in China, but "the people were very friendly and seemed to sense when we needed assistance," summed Woodbury.

