

Bill Mullen joins retirement community with over 30 years of service

**By Farrell McMillan,
Chief, Engineering/Planning**

Friends, family and coworkers gathered in the Concord Park Theatre on July 26 to celebrate the distinguished 30 year career of William Mullen, Engineering/Planning, and his decision to retire.

More than 50 people attended the retirement ceremony. Farrell McMillan, Chief, Engineering/Planning, served as Master of Ceremonies. Other speakers who shared stories and presented Mullen with gifts were Paula Kullberg, Regulatory; Bud Taylor, Programs/Project Management; Raimo Liias and George Clafin, both from Engineering/Planning.

Col. Tom Feir, New England District Commander, also attended the ceremony. The colonel officially retired Mullen by presenting him with his retirement certificate and pin. Col. Feir also presented Mullen with a Commander's Award for Civilian Service and a Bunker Hill plaque for his exceptional service and dedication to the Corps and the nation. Mullen's wife, Alice, accompanied her husband to the retirement ceremony.

Mullen has had a diverse career over his 30 years of service with the Corps of Engineers. Starting as a Co-op with the Automated Data Processing Division at NAE in 1975 while attending Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Mullen began his career with the Corps.

After a one-year rotational assignment with Baltimore District, Mullen joined the Hydraulic Engineering Section, Water Control Branch at NAE in 1978. During his tenure in the Hydraulic Engineering Section Mullen worked on Periodic Dam Inspections as part of the NAE Dam Safety Program, analyzed and provided recommendations for

various streambank erosion issues, and studied as well as provided guidance on flood mitigation recommendations using various hydraulic river modeling software. After leaving federal service for a few years, Mullen re-joined the Corps in New England and continued his career in the Hydrologic Engineering Section, Geotechnical Engineering Water Resources Branch. During his



Photo by Brian Murphy

Bill Mullen receives a Commander's Award for Civilian Service from Col. Tom Feir.

time within this section, Mullen took the lead on a variety of high profile studies associated with FEMA Flood Insurance Studies, using state-of-the-art flood inundation computer modeling.

Mullen also performed a variety of statistical analyses associated with computing frequency of flooding as well as frequency of pool stages on Corps dams and rivers downstream as part of the overall flood mitigation program at NAE.

Mullen ultimately transferred to the Planning Branch for a few years to lend much needed support to an understaffed branch. Bringing with him his hydraulic and hydrologic expertise, Mullen managed to complete many projects associated with the Flood Plain Man-

agement mission. He left Planning and transferred to the Regulatory Division where he provided expert knowledge to assignments associated with wetland mitigation and other regulatory issues. Bringing his engineering background and highly regarded water resources expertise, Mullen established himself as a regulatory expert and quickly became highly regarded within the Regulatory Division.

Mullen finally ended his career in the Reservoir Regulation Section (RRS), Geotechnical Engineering Water Resources Branch. This "last stop" was a perfect fit for someone with the experience, expertise and talent he had acquired over his diverse career. Managing seven dams within the Lower Connecticut River Basin and sharing the responsibilities of regulating the Stamford Hurricane Barrier, Mullen provided needed support allowing the section to continue its mission seamlessly. During his tenure in RRS, Mullen demonstrated his

expert water resources background and regulated the dams and hurricane barrier independently providing exceptional flood mitigation during flood conditions. Showing his commitment and dedication Mullen also procured a new web camera at the Stamford barrier and developed a reservoir simulation model that will be used in RRS for years to come.

Bill Mullen has had a full and diverse career and because of it has acquired a highly regarded water resources expertise and has helped expand Corps capabilities in Hydraulics/Hydrology, Planning, Regulatory, and lastly Reservoir Regulation missions, thereby maintaining the District's reputation as an outstanding water resources organization.