

Distribution Center Red River, Texas

Bulletin Board Displays Items of Interest and Spurs Conversation at DDRT

When Defense Distribution Depot Red River (DDRT) employees walk down the hall in the new Distribution Operations Center (DOC) -- they now enjoy a bulletin board decorated each month with different themes and ideas. Some of the themes and ideas end up being quite unusual and "VERY" interesting.



Ray Stephens and her "What is it?" Bulletin Board.

According to DDRT employee, Ray Stephens, who came up with the idea – the bulletin board came about in an unusual way.

"When the Base Operations Support System (BOSS) Office moved to the DOC (Building 499) in 1997, we started putting up displays taped to the door and walls. Shortly after that, tape became a No-No, so the idea of putting up a bulletin board

came about. The idea has worked fine. It is more visible and there is enough space for the display."

Some of the displays are holiday oriented – such as Veteran's Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving, Halloween and Christmas. Others are just "spur of the moment" ideas. One of the more popular boards was a recent Mother's Day board.

For a different type bulletin board, Ray explained one idea she came up with. "I decided to have a Baby-Guessing Contest and collected 20 entries. The baby photographs generated a lot of interest and speculation. The winner got a prize for guessing all 20 correctly. It was a lot of fun."

Another board that was popular was a Veteran's Day display. Ray explained, "I put up the seal for each Branch of the Armed Forces and under each branch, names of service people related to DDRT employees. This made a VERY nice display for DDRT, Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and Veteran's Day."

The current board is called "What Is It?" "I have displayed 22 household objects that are not identified. Many of these objects are family heirlooms. They consist of a 1930's plastic bracelet that belonged to my mother, a 1940 cigarette maker which belonged to my brother, a 1950 tin monopoly game piece, a 1950 tomato peeler used by my mom when she worked in the tomato sheds, a seam ripper, skeleton keys, an old nut pick, a very old leather coin purse, a square nail, and

an empty package of mendets. Almost no one knew the last object — which was used to mend pots and pans back in the thrifty days," she explained.

The bulletin board has other objects displayed that Ray has collected from thrift stores, garage sales and antique stores.

"In the photo, I am holding an old ice card which was used decades ago to tell the iceman how many pounds of ice you wanted. The card was placed in the window. These are quite rare. Other antique finds displayed include a wooden box used to ship spectacles in, an old cheese slicer, an egg separator, a tea caddy and a pastry blender."

Thrift store buys include another old tea strainer, a cloth minnow seine, a ring holder in the shape of a swan, and a biscuit cutter.

"One of the objects on my board is a church or funeral fan, which I got in 1992 when I was an extra in the movie Leap of Faith. The movie was being filmed in the Dallas area. That was quite an interesting day. The star was Steve Martin and it was also his birthday. The fan is a good souvenir," she said.

"Each display generally stays up two to three weeks while I think about and research the next one. Other employees also give me ideas to think about. My next project is to do a display for each decade starting with 1900. This will require some work, but the whole process is VERY rewarding, stress reducing and fun," she explained.

"I hope other employees of DDRT get as much pleasure from viewing the board as I do putting it up," she said.



How They Beat the Heat at DDRT

Dale White wears his "cool collar" around his neck as he works out of doors at Defense Distribution Depot Red River (DDRT). These "cool collars have been worn by DDRT employees — for several years. The collars help keep the body temperature down while working out in the hot summer sun.



Shown are photos of children of DDRT employees serving in the United States Military. The display is located in the tunnel area of the Distribution Operations Center (DOC) at DDRT.

Bring Your Daughter to Work Day a Ringing Success at DDRT

Defense Distribution Depot Red River (DDRT) held its first "Bring Your Daughter to Work" Day April 27, 2000 at the depot.

The daughters arrived with their parents at the usual work time and gathered in the Distribution Operations Center (DOC) for a briefing. Following the briefing, they were shown a film depicting work done at this depot. Questions concerning work done at this depot were answered.

The group was welcomed by Division Chief, Robert (Bob) Boyd, who was in charge while LTC Randall J. Bockenstedt, DDRT Commander, was not at the depot.

Following the welcome, the group was informed of the day's activity. DDRT employees Ricky Webster, Kip Browning and Larry Ashlin led the group on a "walking tour" of the new DOC facility. Following the walking tour, the children boarded a bus and toured the grounds at DDRT. Webster conducted this tour.

When the group returned they were allowed to go to the parent's workstation and spending the rest of the day in the work area.

According to Ricky Webster, DDRT Engineer, "Bring your Daughter to Work Day was a huge success. Safety was the primary concern for all and no accidents were incurred. They day was a great success and morale builder for the present that participated."



Army Birthday Observed at DDRT

Defense Distribution Depot Red River (DDRT) celebrated the 225th Birthday of the United States Army with an observance and ceremony at the DDRT complex. The event was held Wednesday, June 14, 2000, in front of the Distributions Operations Center (DOC) at DDRT.

LTC (Ret) Iverson E. Shavers of DeKalb, Texas, was the guest speaker. He spoke on his time in the United States Army, which began in the 1942 and spanned most of the 20th century. He remarked how much the branches of the services have change since he first entered the service and pointed out that by working together – we can all make this a better place to live.



LTC (Ret) Iverson stressed that there is a need for an army and he would hate to live someplace where the country did not have an army to defend and protect itself. LTC (Ret) Iverson served in the United States, Europe (Germany and France), and in Korea before he retired from the service.

COL James C. Dwyer, USA, Red River Army Depot (RRAD) Commander, gave the opening remarks. LTC Randall J. Bockenstedt, DDRT Commander, made the closing remarks. Ms. Marilyn Hughes introduced the speakers.

The event was attended by both DDRT and RRAD employees.

A reception in the DOC cafeteria followed the ceremony.