Heritage

SRS Heritage

SEMA Contributes to Heritage Foundation

The Southeastern Environmental Management Association (SEMA) presented a check to the SRS Heritage Foundation as part of the 8th SEMA Conference on April 19th, 2006. The check for \$10,000 was presented by Conference Co-chairs Dan Evans and Jim Pope and was received by Todd Crawford and Walt Joseph, representing the Foundation. Mary Edmunds of the State Historic Preservation Office participated in the presentation.

The Conference was attended by about 100 scientists, engineers, and stewards of the environment including many elected officials. The SEMA contribution is tangible evidence of their support for our endeavors.

SRS Heritage Foundation Newsletter Issue 3, Volume 2 August, 2006



Left to right: Dan Evans, Walt Joseph, Mary Edmunds, Todd Crawford and Jim Pope

T he P

he President's Corner

I am often asked why the DuPont Company was selected to design, build, and operate the Savannah River Plant, one of the greatest undertakings in the history of mankind. As I look back after 38 years with the DuPont Company and 26 years at SRP, I believe the answer is that through its' long history, DuPont has made and distributed some of the most dangerous materials known to mankind. In over 200 years of handling these materials, DuPont accumulated tremendous safety experience and held most of the world safety records.

This safety experience enabled 38,000 DuPont workers, working 54-hour work-weeks to build the Plant in just three years and set world safety records in the process. DuPont operated SRP from 1953 to 1988. In 35 years of operation, SRP reactors never had an incident that seriously injured an employee, severely damaged equipment, or released significant radioactivity into the environment. During 1977-1979 SRP held the record as one of the safest industrial plants in the world.

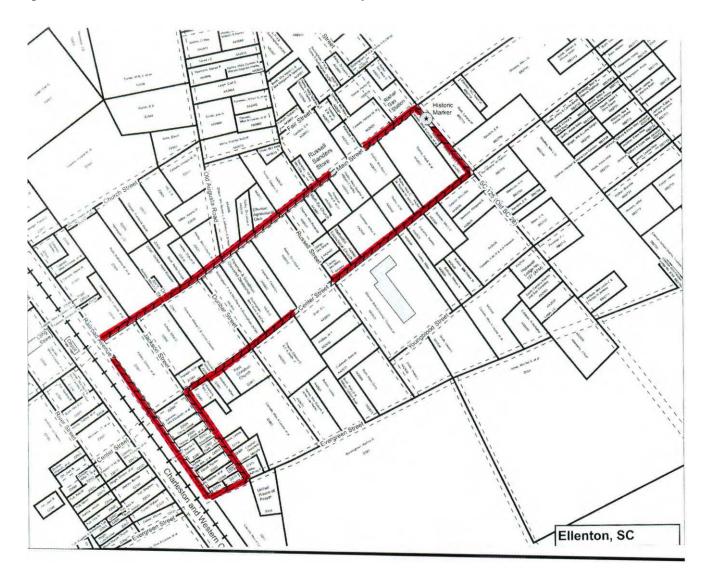
The successful application of safety principles to the complex new technology is a success story that must be told.

Bill Mottel,

President of the Board of Directors

Ellenton Reunion Generates Heritage Trail Excitement

The draft map of the Ellenton Heritage Trail generated plenty of interest at the annual Ellenton Reunion on June 11th. The Reunion was attended by 88 people and many of them spent time in front of the map reminiscing about happenings in their old hometown. Attendees were excited to hear about plans for the Heritage Trail and interested in sharing their stories. The Foundation plans to sponsor a short video about the communities of Ellenton, Dunbarton, Meyers Mill, and others that were displaced to build the Savannah River Plant in the early 1950's.



Map of Ellenton with owner's names from Corps of Engineers records at the time of the displacement. The proposed Heritage Trail (shown in red) stretches from Highway 125 to the railroad, including much of the town center. The trail is about 1 1/4 miles long.

Board of Directors Organizes

The Board of Directors now has a full complement of members and is continuing to meet quarterly. During the meetings on April 21st and July 19th the Board established standing committees and worked toward meeting the goals of the Foundation Strategic Plan.



Board of Directors outside building 742-A, future home of the SRS Heritage Center

SC Heritage Corridor Opens Discovery Centers

The South Carolina National Heritage Corridor recently opened its Region 3 Discovery Center in Blackville, SC. The Center, on Highway 78, contains well-designed exhibits on the history and features of Aiken, Barnwell, and Orangeburg Counties. A small section is devoted to the Savannah River Site. The new Region 3 Discovery Center complements the Region 2 Center that has been open in Edgefield for about 2 years.

Architect Reviews Heritage Center Concept

Walt Joseph and Todd Crawford met with architects at Lord.Aeck.Sargent in Atlanta to review progress and begin planning for the preliminary design of the Heritage Center. The initial concept of the Center includes classrooms, an auditorium, traveling exhibit area, conference room, and library in addition to the exhibit space and supporting facilities. The architects will develop a proposal for the preliminary design of the facility as soon as funding is available. The preliminary design will require 3-6 months to complete and will include an artist's rendering of the overall building, a floor plan with space allocations, a design and construction schedule, and cost estimates.

DOE Museum Directors Meet

Representatives of 15 museums, visitor centers, or science centers located at Department of Energy sites met in June in Las Vegas. Todd Crawford and Walt Joseph represented the SRS Heritage Foundation at the meeting. Attendees decided to organize a network to make recommendations to DOE and to share information between the various institutions. Walt was appointed to the planning committee that will begin to design the network.

Foundation Developing Website

The SRS Heritage Foundation is opening a website at **srsheritage.org.** The site presently contains only a few test images but is being expanded to include copies of the Newsletter and other updated material. The Foundation site links to the CNTA site that includes good background information on the Foundation.

Keep checking for further developments.

Funding Issues Resolved

The funding issue mentioned in the "Late Breaking News" section of our last newsletter has been resolved. DOE initially proposed to delete all funding for preservation activities from the budget. However, after extended negotiations, most of the funding was restored and work is again in progress. The net result is a schedule delay of 3-4 months in the work of New South Associates (including hiring a Curator for the DOE artifact collection) and postponement of funding for renovation of the Curation Facility in Building 315-A until next fiscal year. Design of the Curation Facility is continuing and is expected to be completed in August.

NEWSFLASH!!!!!

Caroline Bradford was hired August 8th to be Curator of the DOE artifact collection. Ms. Bradford has a BA in History and is completing her MA in Museum Studies. She has worked with historic collections in Florida and South Dakota. She will report to SRS about September 5th, 2006.

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT SRS INITIAL CONSTRUCTION.. The largest construction project in history

- Between 1950 and 1955, designed, built and placed in operation: 5 nuclear production reactors 2 chemical separation plants Heavy water extraction plant Nuclear fuel and target fabrication facility 230 miles of new roads including first cloverleaf in SC 63 miles of railroad track Laboratories, office and support buildings
- Required 2 million hand-drawn blueprints
- Moved 39 million cubic yards of earth
- Used:

1.5 million cubic yards of concrete 118 thousand tons of reinforcing steel 85 million board feet of lumber The entire US production of 304L and 316 stainless steel for 3 years.

The workforce peaked at 38,000 in 1952.

SRS Heritage Center

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