Goodye and thank you, Fred Short

Since Fred Short assumed leadership of Iowa’s training program for motor grader operators (MoGO), Iowa has developed one of the premier rural-roads training activities in the nation. Iowa’s MoGO training program is a model for many Local Technical Assistance Programs in other states.

Now, after 13 years with the MoGO program, Fred is retiring. For sure, this time. (He took over the MoGO program after retiring as Audobon County engineer in 1992.)

We recently reached Fred and his wife, Jonquil, in sunny Arizona where they spent part of the winter. But he was back in Iowa in time for the April train-the-trainer workshop, where he turned the MoGO program over to the new coordinator, Clarence Perry.

All of us who worked with Fred will miss him. He’s earned the respect of county engineers and road workers alike not only for his expertise in motor grader operations but also for his caring respect for the literally hundreds of MoGO operators and trainers who participated in his workshops.

Best wishes, Fred and Jonnie!

Welcome, Clarence Perry—new MoGO workshop coordinator

If anyone can fill outgoing MoGO training coordinator Fred Short’s shoes (or driver’s seat), it is Clarence “Sonny” Perry. We enthusiastically welcome Clarence to Iowa LTAP’s training team.

A lifelong Iowan, Clarence retired in 2001 from a career that spanned 40 years and several Iowa counties. At various times, he was assistant engineer in Lee County and county engineer in Jefferson, Lucas, and Henry Counties. During those years, Clarence served a term as president of the Iowa County Engineers Association, from whom he received a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005. He also served a term as president of the National Association of County Engineers and, in 1989, was named NACE Engineer of the Year.

Clarence was enjoying retirement with his wife, Mary Lou, in Mount Pleasant when we convinced him to join the LTAP team and share his knowledge and experience with motor grader operators throughout the state.

Clarence will start his first MoGO training season this summer. “I think it’s going to be a great opportunity,” he says.

We’re glad to have you with us, Clarence!