

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



## Life Jackets Worn, Nobody Mourns - Water Safety Campaign

Every year in the United States thousands of people mourn the loss of loved ones who could have survived if they had been wearing a life jacket.

In cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Water Safety Program, the Corps Foundation has developed this new nationwide campaign funded through a grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Foundation administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. The campaign has produced a DVD that includes four television-quality video public service announcements (PSAs), three radio-quality audio PSAs and two posters.

The campaign even reaches out to the Digital Demographic, with a free mobile game app called "Lake Guard". The "Lake Guard" game is now downloadable from the Google Play and Apple app stores.

The campaign targets adult males who don't wear life jackets; statistics show they are at the highest risk of drowning on our nation's open waters. Campaign materials are available at [PleaseWearIt.com](http://PleaseWearIt.com) and will be promoted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to save lives on our nation's lakes and rivers.

### *Drowning Demographic - % of fatalities in last 10 years:*

**88% Male**

**84% No Life Jacket Worn**

**68% Between Ages 20-60**

**27% Boating Falls**

**21% Alcohol Involved**

*Male boaters age 20 to 60 generally express more interest in their wives, friends, partners and children wearing life jackets than themselves.*





## Recognizing Volunteers

The annual work of more than 48,000 total volunteers equates to approximately 27% of the Corps of Engineers' workforce. This year the Corps Foundation sponsored new coin awards to recognize the outstanding volunteers who contribute to natural resource management and support Corps park rangers in providing exceptional service and outstanding interpretation at recreation sites.

## Advancing Partnerships

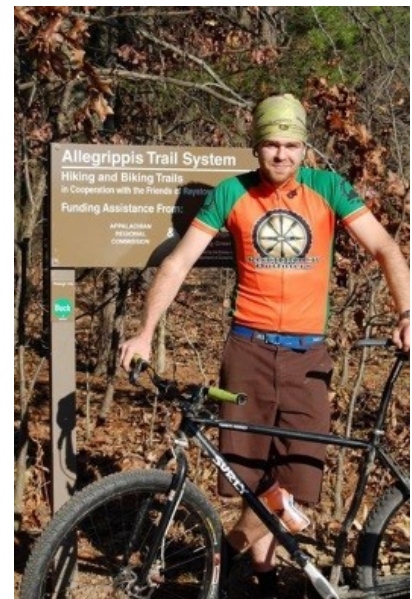
Since 2011 the Corps Foundation has sponsored the annual Corps of Engineers Excellence in Partnerships and the Volunteer Excellence awards. This year we salute the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Cooper River Re-diversion Project Visitor Center Team in the Charleston, SC District which received the 2014 National Volunteer Group Award. The team dedicated more than 700 hours to produce new interpretive displays for the visitor center. Mikayla Conrad of Deer Creek Lake in the Huntington, WV District received the 2014 National Volunteer Individual Award. By dedicating more than 1,000 hours of volunteer time, she was responsible for greatly increasing volunteer contacts and program opportunities at Deer Lake.

## Helping Revitalize the Locks

The Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, locally known as the Ballard Locks, are the busiest in the nation and a major tourist attraction for Seattle. But after 100 years of use and inadequate federal funding, the locks are in serious need of major repairs for both the major structural components and visitor facilities. The Corps Foundation has partnered with a local non-profit, Discover Your Northwest, to help raise needed private funds for visitor facilities and programs as the locks approaches its Centennial in 2017.



Using internet social media resources, we are increasing public awareness about the issues and how the public can help. A special website ([www.ballardlocks.org](http://www.ballardlocks.org)) was created by the Corps Foundation, focusing on specific relevant information to the 1.3 million visitors and boaters who use the locks every year. The website now attracts thousands of hits and has become a critical source of information for locks visitors and boaters.



Evan Gross, a volunteer at Raystown Lake, Baltimore District, Corps of Engineers, was the recipient of the first Volunteer Coin. Recognized for his dedication to the excellence of the Allegrippis Trail system at Raystown Lake, Evan coordinates a club approach to trail maintenance. The result is that the trails are now recognized as some of the best in the United States for mountain biking.





## Membership

Thank you Members and Donors!

By supporting the Corps Foundation, you become a partner with the largest Federal provider of outdoor recreation facilities, helping the stewardship of millions of acres of land and water managed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

### Membership categories:

Annual Individual	\$50
Annual Corporate	\$500
Lifetime	\$1000

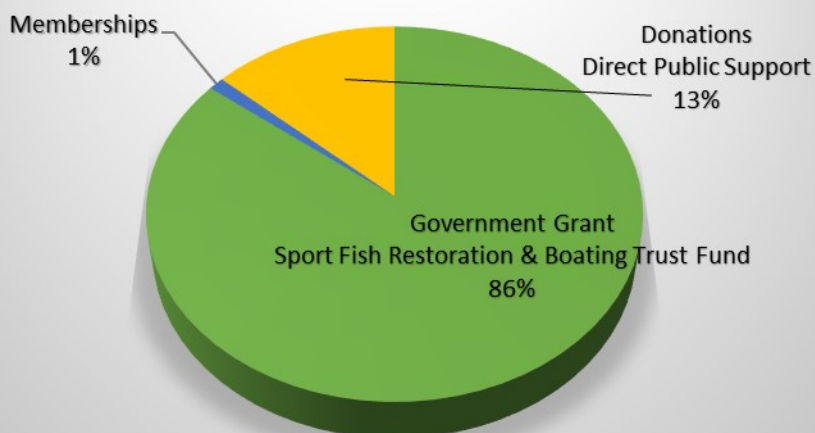
Corps Foundation overhead costs are virtually nonexistent, since the Corps Foundation is fully managed by dedicated volunteers. That means your membership contribution goes directly to support these important program initiatives.

## Life Members

Deborah Chenoweth  
Rachel Garren  
Marilyn Jones  
Darrell Lewis  
Peter Lewis  
Kathleen Perales  
Chip Pierson  
Franklin Star  
David Wahus  
Mary Ann Webster  
James Wolcott

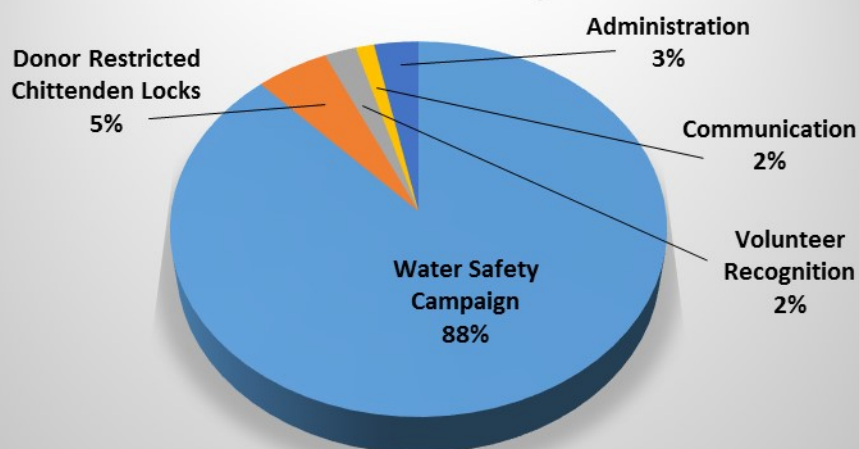
The Corps Foundation is a non-profit public charity designated 501(c) 3 by the Internal Revenue Service. All contributions are 100% tax deductible-and all amounts are appreciated!

## Fiscal Year 2015 Income



**\$123,786 Total Income**

## Fiscal Year 2015 Expenses



**\$144,537 Total Expense**

Revenue for the fiscal year was received from direct public support, membership dues, and a government grant from the Sport Fish Restoration & Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Corps received approval of a \$175,000 grant from the Coast Guard in 2014, which was paid in two installments. The first \$70,000 was received in 2014 but was not fully expended in that year. The balance of \$105,000 was received in 2015. Timing of the project resulted in more grant expenditures in 2015 and a resulting fiscal year net loss of (\$20,722). In actuality, all \$175,00 of grant funds were expended during the two year timeframe of the grant and no net loss was incurred by the Corps Foundation.

The Corps Foundation operates on an accrual basis, with a January 1-December 31 fiscal year.

# Get Involved

The Corps of Engineers is the nation's largest provider of water based recreation resources, managing more than 12 million acres of land and water for recreation and environmental conservation—some of the best wildlife and fisheries habitat in the nation. This includes more than 4,700 recreation areas in 43 states. Find your lake or waterway at [corpslakes.usace.army.mil/visitors/](http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/visitors/).

We invite you to get involved nationally or locally. Our quarterly newsletter periodically lists opportunities to support communications, education, membership and advocacy initiatives. On a local level, 54 nonprofit partner organizations serve 66 Corps lakes and waterways. These “friends” organizations provide valuable manpower, community outreach, educational programs, products and services.



## Corps Foundation Board of Directors

Pictured left to right:

Pat Barry, Portland, OR  
Peter Lewis, Seattle, WA  
Donna Asbury, North Potomac, MD  
Marilyn Jones, Covington, PA  
Darrell Lewis, Hayden, ID  
Greg Miller, North Kansas City, MO  
Not pictured, Rich Deline, Seattle, WA



The Corps Foundation has received the GuideStar Exchange Gold participation level, a leading symbol of transparency and accountability provided by GuideStar USA, Inc.

Visit: [www.guidestar.org/profile/20-5545091](http://www.guidestar.org/profile/20-5545091)

# Message from Our Chair

Recapping our accomplishments of the past year, I am very grateful for the Board of Directors, members and volunteers who have helped us throughout 2015. I greatly appreciate all your support towards our vision of an involved public enjoying and supporting Corps lakes, lands and waterways.

Each year one out of every ten Americans visits a Corps lake, more than 370 million visits. Why do so many people come to the lakes? They come with their families and friends to be near the water and its natural beauty, creating unforgettable memories and connections to nature that will last a lifetime.

At a time of decreasing federal funding, America's lakes and waterways are at risk of reduced access, eliminated programs, even closures. As just one example, Federal spending for natural resource programs as a percent of all non-defense discretionary funding has fallen over 50% since 1975.

With your continuing support we can help maintain and improve the programs and facilities that provide public access, and keep these treasured resources vibrant. Together we can involve communities, engage and honor local volunteers, expand educational efforts, provide safe recreational facilities and conserve natural resources for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

With gratitude,

Greg Miller, Chairperson  
Corps Foundation



## Contact Us

To learn more about our programs and services, and how to get involved.

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Visit us on the web at:  
[www.corpsfoundation.org](http://www.corpsfoundation.org)

