



The Foundation

Newsletter of The Corps Foundation Spring, 2016

Our Mission is to ensure the environmental health and recreational enjoyment of our nation's lakes, lands and waterways administered by the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Welcome to the Spring Newsletter of the Corps Foundation

Spring is here according to the calendar. New growth is pushing up through the recently frozen ground. Flowers are blooming in some parts of the country. Here in the recently Frozen North buds are swelling with the promise of color. Spring is a time for good foundations. This is when we till compost into the soil before sowing seeds in hope of a successful harvest later in the year. Without a strong foundation set deep into the soil, the walls of a structure, even a castle will be weak. We hope that you will support the work of the Corps Foundation so that the Foundation can help develop partnerships and programs to ensure the environmental health and recreational opportunities of the lands and waters administered by the professional managers of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.



It has been nearly 3 years since your editor retired from the Federal Government. Editing this newsletter has reminded me of our propensity to use acronyms. Like weeds in my garden, this edition has more acronyms than I could pull.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of the Corps Foundation Newsletter. We invite your ideas and articles about how the Corps Foundation has helped our lands and waters. Please contact Rick Magee, Newsletter Editor, at rickvex@aol.com.

An Award Winning Campaign

The Corps Foundation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) National Operations Center (NOC) for Water Safety received several awards for their “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” adult water safety campaign at the 2016 International Boating and Water Safety Summit (IBWSS) The IBWSS was held in San Diego, California, on March 6-9.

The IBWSS is conducted by the National Safe Boating Council, National Water Safety Congress (NWSC), and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. The IBWSS recognized the Corps Water Safety efforts with the following awards:

- First Place to the Corps Foundation in the Media Contest Video PSA, Audio PSA and Electronic Education categories. The winning entries were for the “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” video and audio PSAs and “Lake Guard” mobile game app.
- The USACE NOC for Water Safety also received first-place in the media contest in the Special Category-Education for their Bobber the Water Safety Dog Trading Cards 1-2-3 Splash Game, which is downloadable on www.Bobber.info.
- Second Place to the USACE NOC for Water Safety in the Media Contest Giveaways-Handouts Category for their “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” Fisherman Hand Towel.
- Third place in the Brochures-Booklets Category for their “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” Water Safety Tips Rack Card.
- The NWSC presented the USACE NOC for Water Safety with a Regional Award for the “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” campaign.

Representatives from several state and non-profit organizations at the IBWSS said they plan on utilizing the electronic products on their websites, purchasing air time, and promoting the games. The “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” winning products are viewable and downloadable at www.PleaseWearIt.com.

Corps Foundation Partners with Bass Pro Shops to Honor the Exceptional Service of Longstanding Volunteers



This year the Corps Foundation has initiated a new Enduring Service Award to honor the long-term commitment and outstanding accomplishments of individuals and families at Corps lakes, lands and waterways. Sponsored by Bass Pro Shops, the award will provide recognition packages to two outstanding individuals or families consisting of a plaque, cash award, and gift certificates for Bass Pro merchandise.

Bass Pro Shops' support will also enable the Corps Foundation to continue its volunteer recognition medallion program, which honors volunteers for outstanding service at the local and district levels. With its focus on outdoor recreation, conservation, boating and fishing, Bass Pro Shops is the perfect partner for this new program. The company has a track record of community engagement and working with the Corps of Engineers on a number of successful conservation, recreation and water safety programs. Martin Mac Donald, Director of Corporate and Public Affairs at Bass Pro, says that he is pleased to support this new initiative that uniquely honors volunteers for their essential roles in advancing the Corps' recreation, outreach, and environmental stewardship goals.

The application deadline for this year's award is now closed, and winners from among the many qualified nominees will be announced this summer.

Corps Foundation Reaches Out to Marina Operators with Water Safety Campaign

In April the Corps Foundation sent a special water safety mailing to 175 marina operators working at Corps lakes and waterways across the country. The mailing consisted of a cover letter, special "Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns" campaign flyer, 2-page Corps Foundation information sheet, and a return postcard enabling marina operators to sign up for our electronic newsletter and other mailings – or to visit our website and become a member of the Corps Foundation. Marina operators were also encouraged to work with their local U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office to promote the water safety campaign and reduce drownings in their area.



This is the second notice sent to marina operators announcing the water safety campaign. In December an announcement letter co-signed by the Corps Foundation and USACE was distributed via email or postal mail, depending on availability of contact information. Local USACE offices and volunteers are encouraged to reach out to their local marinas to promote the campaign. Materials are available at PleaseWearIt.com.

First Corps Foundation Annual Report Released in March



If you have not yet reviewed our 2015 annual report released in March, please check it out on our website at

<http://corpsfoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Annual-Report-2015-pdf.pdf>. The

Corps Foundation is proud to share this succinct four-page summary of our accomplishments in priority initiatives that include water safety, partnerships, and volunteer recognition. The report also contains a financial statement, information on our membership program, and ways to get involved in our efforts. The annual report is just one of many ways in which the Foundation is increasing its outreach, as well as meeting standards for nonprofit transparency and reporting.

Marklesburg Volunteer Fire Department Wins National Partnership Award!



Photo of the 2015 EIP award ceremony held at Raystown Lake, PA.

On April 6, 2016, Edward Belk Jr., Chief of the Operations and Regulatory within the Directorate of Civil Works at the US Army Corps of Engineers Headquarters presented the Marklesburg Volunteer Fire Department (MVFD) with the 2015 Excellence in Partnership Award. Fire Company President, Brian Hunsicker accepted the award for their collaboration with Raystown Lake, a Corps operated lake in central Pennsylvania.

Heather Burke, Corps' National Partnership Program manager, made introductory remarks, stating the Corps of Engineers and communities in which it works need organizations like the fire company, Coast Guard Auxiliary, the county commissioners and others present who serve the public to create beautiful places where others can come and recreate. Marilyn Jones represented the Board of Directors of the Corps Foundation.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Corps Foundation present this annual award to recognize exceptional contributions by a partner to the Corps' many recreational and environmental stewardship programs.

MVFD was nominated by Raystown Lake staff, most notably for their contributions as exemplary emergency medical service responders to the Raystown community. Award winning efforts include the marking, mapping, and accessibility to the nationally-recognized Allegrippis Bike Trail System that will dramatically improve their ability to swiftly locate victims of biking injuries throughout the 3,000-acre remote area. Additionally, MVFD procured a terrain master litter wheel transport system, allowing rescuers to negotiate difficult terrain without subjecting the victim to additional trauma. MVFD also successfully fundraised over \$100,000 to secure a 25-foot Aluminum Safe V-Hull Fire and Rescue boat from the U.S. Coast Guard, fully equipped with remote-operated underwater camera vehicle and SCUBA team recovery equipment.

“We are very excited that Marklesburg Volunteer Fire Department at Raystown Lake is receiving the praise that they deserve not only on a local level, but nationally, as well,” said Nick Krupa, Raystown Lake project manager. “They have gone above and beyond what is expected of most first responders, finding creative solutions to some of our most difficult rescue and recovery efforts. MVFD has also supported us in the promotion of our missions, partnering not only with the Corps, but with numerous other local agencies and businesses to provide better service to the visitors of Raystown Lake, and ultimately, to enhance public safety.”

For the entire article and more photos, click this link: <http://docdro.id/CFdmADx>

Dick Armstrong Goes the Extra Mile for Water Safety

Volunteer Dick Armstrong has greatly assisted the Corps of Engineers with its water safety programs at Alum Creek Lake, in Central Ohio, and at IBWSS & USACE Washington, D.C., events. He has been very involved in doing “Corey the Safety Boat” programs, festivals, and parades. Mr. Armstrong is a volunteer who is always there to help educate children and to prevent drowning. Corey the Safety Boat is a very popular character in Central Ohio and the children learn from Corey’s three water safety rules:

1. Always swim with a buddy
2. Don’t just pack it wear your life jacket
3. Reach or throw but don’t go in the water to try to save someone



Mr. Armstrong has received many words of appreciation from children and their parents for going the extra mile as a volunteer to promote boating and water safety. He was a principle member of the Alum Creek Lake staff that recently received the Lakes and Rivers Division’s Water Safety Team Award. He also received a Commanders Coin from Lieutenant General Bostick for his great work at two Headquarters USACE events held in Washington, DC this past summer.



Mr. Armstrong recently indicated he has ran a lifetime mile race (5280+ volunteer hours of service) over the last 30 years, in promoting water and boating safety to children and adults. Since becoming a USACE volunteer in 2008, he has volunteered 1262 hours. Mr. Armstrong has reached out to thousands of children to be safe around the water by learning to swim and to always wear their life jackets. He is always willing to participate in any opportunity to teach children to be safe around the water. Mr. Armstrong is considered to be the true “Grandpa” of Corey the Safety Boat.

The Corps Foundation is proud to recognize the volunteer water safety efforts of Mr. Dick Armstrong by presenting him with a Foundation Coin.



Henry Condry: Working For the Bluebirds at Alum Creek Lake



Harry Condry of Marion County, Ohio, has been providing volunteer service to Alum Creek Lake for 25 years. His Environmental Stewardship focuses on bluebird habitat restoration. This restoration has included research, construction, placement, installation, maintenance, and monitoring of more than 25 blue bird boxes, plus two gourd nesting platforms which have nearly thirty gourds for nesting.

Mr. Condry helped initiate the installation of osprey platforms at head of Alum Creek Lake for osprey habitat. Each year he provides a consistent average of more than fifty hours a year in this service to the wildlife of Alum Creek Lake.

Many visitors from the nearby urban area of Columbus, Ohio, visit Alum Creek each spring to view the bluebirds along the nature trail that begins at the Visitor Center. Mr. Condry's bluebird management efforts are credited with the expansion of this blue bird nature trail. Visitor Center. The one-mile trail now includes an interpretive brochure and signs along its route. This is a valued resource for the local residents, both human and bluebird.

The Corps Foundation is proud to recognize the volunteer environmental stewardship of Mr. Harry Condry by presenting him with a Foundation Coin.



Join or Renew Your Corps Foundation Membership Now and Receive our Logo Tote Bag



Just in time for summer, our new logo bag is perfect for toting picnic preparations, towels, sunscreen, and water safety items to the lake. And while supplies last, you can receive this premium canvas tote bag with a new or renewed Corps Foundation membership of \$50 or more.

This offer is available through a generous product grant from 4imprint company's *one by one*® program. The program offers non-profit organizations the opportunity to apply for and select logo products that advance the mission of their organizations. This grant is enabling the Corps Foundation to

test the viability of offering a membership premium, help garner attention for our organization, and provide a quality thank-you gift for new and renewing members. Since there is no product cost, 100% of your membership contribution directly supports the work of our organization.

To join or renew your membership, go to our website at www.corpsfoundation.org and click on the link to the right hand side of our page that says “Join.” You may join or renew at our \$50 annual membership fee. Current members will automatically receive a one year extension beyond their current membership renewal date.

Summer Cook Outs with Products from Omaha Steaks can Benefit Corps Lakes



This summer light up your grill and enjoy delicious steaks, burgers, and other great foods while supporting our nation's lakes and waterways. The Corps Foundation is happy to announce its second fundraising campaign through the Steaks for Good program from Omaha Steaks. Shop steaks, seafood, chicken, veggies, desserts and more, and 10% of every order you make will go towards our fundraising goal!

You may purchase online at www.steaksforgood.com/CorpsFoundation, at your local Omaha Steaks store, or by phone at 800-994-7455. Simply

tell the Omaha Steaks specialist that you are ordering through the Corps Foundation campaign.

Your Corps Foundation is working diligently to assist the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in meeting today's increased demands for recreation, safety, education and natural resource conservation. As the summer season approaches, food products from Omaha Steaks are great for those cookouts by the lake, and the 10% return on your every Omaha Steaks order makes a difference!

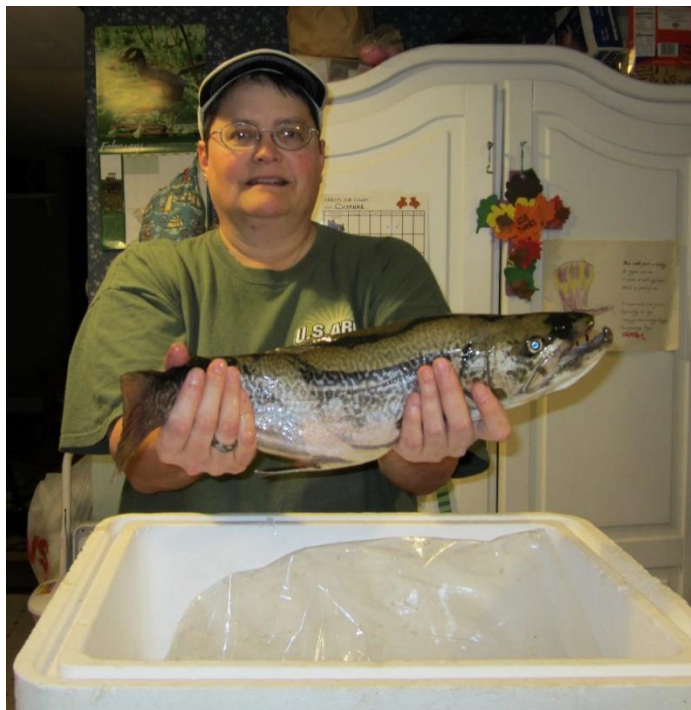
Getting to know our Board Members: Marilyn Jones

From time to time the Foundation Newsletter will include an interview of one of the members of the Board of the Corps Foundation. This edition we feature Board Member Marilyn Jones. She was interviewed by another Board Member, Peter Lewis.

Peter B. Lewis: I know you spent a large part of your life working for the Army Corps of Engineers. Could you talk about how that's been for you?

Marilyn K. Jones: Well, I spent my entire career at the Corps of Engineers. So I had 33 and a half years of service when I retired in 2013.

PBL: That sounds like a long haul.



MARILYN: I was young pup at the time. I didn't have the gray that I do now.

PBL: Where was your first assignment?

MARILYN: I started at Pat Mayse Lake in Northeast Texas. It was a summer job. And from there I went to Tenkiller Lake in Eastern Oklahoma. Most of my career was in Southwestern Division, which is Oklahoma, Arkansas, southern part of Missouri and southeastern part of Kansas and all of Texas.

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<http://docdro.id/b8IomAx>

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www.CorpsFoundation.org

Contributions for future editions of The Foundation newsletter are welcome. Please send your ideas and articles about successful partnerships and other efforts to promote the work of The Corps to your Newsletter Editor.

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