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## Corps Foundation Names First Enduring Service Awardees

We are pleased to announce the first **Corps Foundation "Enduring Service" Awardees**, selected from an impressive group of individuals nominated for their continued service and accomplishments at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakes, lands and waterways.

The Enduring Service Volunteer Award was established in January 2016 by the nonprofit, Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation, doing business as the Corps Foundation. The award honors long term service and outstanding accomplishments by individuals and families as volunteers at Corps of Engineers operated lakes and waterways.

This year's two award winners are:

- **Bob Kendrick, 28 years of distinguished service at Mark Twain Lake in Monroe City, Missouri.**
- **Pauline and Orville Nichols, 21 years of dedicated service at Keystone Lake area in Sand Springs, Oklahoma.**

We are glad to have the generous support of the Bass Pro Shops for this very special and meaningful award program. The award recipients received a plaque and recognition package consisting of a gift certificate and cash award sponsored by Bass Pro Shops.

Since its inception, the Corps Foundation has recognized the importance of volunteers in the direct labor they contribute and in their value in connecting communities. Volunteers are invaluable in helping the Corps of Engineers meet its recreation and environmental stewardship goals. This year the work of more than 48,000 volunteers equated to approximately 27% of the Corps' workforce.

The Enduring Service Volunteer Award recognizes the extraordinary service provided by volunteers; it draws attention to their contributions and encourages an attitude of public responsibility in caring for Corps operated lakes and their resources. While the years and hours of service of this year's awardees are notable, it is the exceptional quality and impact of each of these outstanding volunteers that is central to their selection as the first recipients of this award.

### **Bob Kendrick**

Bob Kendrick's dedicated effort has united the community around Mark Twain Lake to provide thousands of hours of volunteer service and the necessary resources to support annual special events including the Mark Twain Lake Deer Hunt for People with Disabilities, the Youth Shed Antler Hunt, Earth Day Special Event, and National Public Lands Day event. His advocacy on behalf of the Mark Twain Lake Region helped to secure resources to develop the M.W. Boudreaux Memorial Visitor Center Campus, a premier educational facility, serving visitors to Mark Twain Lake.



September 29, 2016 - Bass Pro Shop, Columbia, Missouri – Mr. Bob Kendrick of Monroe City, Missouri was presented with the Enduring Service Volunteer Award for his volunteer service at Mark Twain Lake. The award was presented by David Smith (left) representing Bass Pro Shops and Greg Miller, Chairperson of the Board of Directors for the Corps Foundation.

### **Pauline and Orville Nichols**

Pauline and Orville Nichols play a vital role in helping keep the parks at Keystone Lake safe and presentable for the public. Together they have logged over 26,000 hours of service, saving the Corps of Engineers more than half a million dollars. During the floods of 2015, the Nichols were among the last to leave the campgrounds and the first to return, immediately helping to clean flood debris in order re-open the campgrounds. They often go above and beyond to assist the public recreating at the park and have a good working relationship with local law enforcement and first responders.



September 22, 2016 - Case Community Center, Sand Springs, Oklahoma - Orville and Pauline Nichols were presented the Enduring Service Award Volunteer Award for their volunteer service at Keystone Lake. Col. Christopher Hussin, Commander, Tulsa District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers joins Greg Miller, Chairperson, Board of Directors, Corps Foundation in presenting the award.

Nominations for the 2017 awards will be accepted between January 15 and April 30, 2017. Go to [www.CorpsFoundation.org](http://www.CorpsFoundation.org) in January for more information on how to nominate your most exceptional volunteers.

■ By Greg Miller

### **A Corps Foundation Presentation in New Hampshire**

This past October, Foundation Board of Directors member Marilyn Jones had the pleasure of speaking to about 80 members of the New England District Park Rangers, Managers, and Operations staff, in the lovely facility of Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest Research Station near North Woodstock, New Hampshire. This facility is nestled in the beautiful White Mountain National Forest, a picturesque drive from Pennsylvania.

The audience received a 10-minute presentation about the Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation. Marilyn covered what we have been doing and where we are doing. A Power Point presentation provided information about the Foundation's beginnings, the



various awards and products we have, on-going corporate sponsorships, and the Boating Safety Grant from the U.S. Coast Guard. Recognitions administered by the Foundation include the Enduring Service Awards and the Volunteer Coin. Our partnerships include Burgerville Restaurants and Bass Pro Shops. Further, the audience learned about the work going on at Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, our fundraising through Omaha Steaks and Amazon Smile, and sponsorship of Volunteer awards.

Marilyn also provided different examples of where the Foundation had partnerships with Corps Lakes. To name just a few, we brought to fruition a website for volunteers, to bring hundreds of 4<sup>th</sup> Graders into the Corps parks, distribute water safety signs, and distribute water safety coloring sheets on the backs of placemats.

A call for assistance was also made in the areas of membership, networking, ideas, new board members, or volunteering in the Communications and Membership committees, or through assisting in fundraising or website assistance. Membership brochures were made available to gain new members or donations to the Foundation.

The Training was invaluable to all who attended and I look forward to working with members of the New England District on a future grant or partnership.



- By [RG1] Marilyn Jones

### **An Award-Winning Campaign**

The 2016 International Boating and Water Safety Summit (IBWSS) was held in San Diego, California, on March 6-9 where the Corps of Engineers Natural Resources and Education Foundation (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. 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 Corps Foundation received first-place in the IBWSS

Media Contest Video PSA, Audio PSA and Electronic Education categories. The winning entries were for the "Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns" video and audio public service announcements (PSAs) and "Lake Guard" mobile game app.

The USACE NOC for Water Safety received second place in IBWSS Media Contest Giveaways-Handouts Category for their "Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns" Fisherman Hand Towel and 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. The USACE NOC for Water Safety also received first-place in the IBWSS 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](http://www.Bobber.info). 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](http://www.PleaseWearIt.com).



**Artwork for 2017 Partnership Campaign Banner**

### **Boating Safety Campaign (2016-2017) Grant**

The Corps Foundation is very excited to have received another grant in the amount of \$175,000 to expand the "Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns" campaign. We heard from several U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) employees and other boating safety specialists that the award-winning campaign products created from the previous (2014-2015) grant were very helpful in encouraging our target market of adult men to wear life jackets.

We had requests from USACE employees to create shorter 15-second public service announcements (PSAs) for airing in movie theaters and on social media. The new grant will allow us to create those kinds of PSAs. In October 2017, both new and revised PSAs will be made available for downloading on [www.PleaseWearIt.com](http://www.PleaseWearIt.com)

We are purchasing vinyl wraps for USACE truck tailgates and 3 feet by 8 feet banners for promoting the campaign at USACE lakes and waterways. Seventy-five request forms for free tailgate wraps and banners were received by the November 18th deadline. Request forms will be scored to determine how many tailgate wraps and banners can be purchased and successful recipients will be notified in March 2017 for installation prior to the 2017 recreation season.

Funds for this partnership with USACE were made possible by a Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund grant, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard.



## Crooked Creek Lake Volunteers Go Above and Beyond

### Patrick Schrock

Crooked Creek Lake staff presented volunteer Patrick Schrock with a National Volunteer Coin for his outstanding efforts at Crooked Creek Lake on September 21, 2016 on behalf of the Corps Foundation.

Mr. Schrock volunteered over 100 hours at the lake during the 2016 recreation season. His accomplishments include performing trail maintenance, refurbishing benches and picnic tables, painting parking lot bumper blocks, and performing beautification of landscape beds throughout the day use areas of the park. He assisted in enhancement of new project conference room by constructing new office chairs, conducting inspections of geocache sites, aiding in the Crooked Creek Lake Visitor Information Center renovation project by relocating materials throughout the park, refurbishing several horseshoe pits, building owl boxes, constructing shelving and organizing water safety materials, and removing and replacing bunkers on multiple boat trailers.





Patrick Schrock's actions have improved the aesthetic appeal of the park and supported the flood damage reduction, recreation, and environmental stewardship missions. Mr. Schrock's efforts have inspired the participation of additional volunteers at the project.

### **Marge Van Tassel**

Ms. Marge Van Tassel also received a National Volunteer Coin on March 4, 2016 for her service of more than 10 years and more than 4,000 hours. Her outstanding dedication and exemplary volunteer service is an asset to the Corps of Engineers at Crooked Creek Lake.



Ms. Van Tassel's consistent, year-round efforts have furnished an average of 400 volunteer hours each year. She has completed bird inventories, managed the blue bird program, coordinated the establishment of a purple martin population. She gives impromptu interpretive programs to park visitors. She supplies accurate biological inventory data, reports anticipated problems, maintenance concerns, and security issues.

Ms. Van Tassel's commitment to Environmental Stewardship and Crooked Creek Lake is commendable.

## **Volunteer Coins Presented at Mountain Home Project Office, Little Rock District**

### **Nominations by Kathleen Payne and Alan Griffin**

Three volunteers at the Mountain Home Project Office in Arkansas were recent recipients of a Volunteer Coin in recognition of their untiring work. Their efforts have contributed greatly to improving the visitor experience at Mountain Home, Bull Shoals, and Norfolk Lakes. The volunteer work accomplished during the past five years by Jerry Lockridge, Tracy Stevens, and Loma Willis have saved the Corps more than \$280,000.

### **Mr. Jerry Lochridge**

Mr. Jerry Lochridge has been working as a Operations and Maintenance volunteer at the Mountain Home Project Office since December 10, 2014. For 2 years, Jerry has assisted our staff with repairs and maintenance of facilities. He has a vast background of knowledge from his former career as an electrician. He also possesses computer skills to write electrical and safety procedures for use in day-to-day activities.



Jerry is very proactive. An Army veteran, Jerry displays all the Army values: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage.

Jerry was part of a two-man volunteer team that completely installed a new water line, allowing us to offer additional services to the public in Lakeview Park on Bull Shoals Lake. Jerry did a huge amount of work on this project, including digging trenches, removal of old water lines, placing new water line in the ground, installing new water faucets and cutoff valves, and assisting with the final backfill of the new line.

Most recently, Jerry implemented an Arc Flash labeling system in all parks and at the project office. He also helped facilitate an Electrical Competency Class for the O&M staff. Jerry also assisted with installation and maintenance of the life jacket loaner stations.

Mr. Lochridge is proud to be a part of the team, and often works many more hours than is asked of him, contributing up to 40 hours per week from Monday through Friday. During his time with us, he has volunteered more than 2,835 hours of his time. His dedication has been recognized with a volunteer coin.



**Mr. Lockridge writes electrical and safety procedures for use in day-to-day activities.**

### **Mr. Tracy Stevens**

Mr. Tracy Stevens began working as a volunteer for the Mountain Home Project Office on April 13, 2011. His expertise in operating heavy equipment and his vast knowledge in construction, plumbing, air conditioning repair, and in other areas makes him a huge asset to the project.

Tracy Stevens is a dependable and knowledgeable volunteer who is safety-minded. Tracy has always been willing to do any task, large or small, assigned to him. Demonstrating selfless service, he often goes above and beyond the call of duty as a volunteer. Tracy does everything in a timely and efficient manner, and when a job is completed, it is always done right.

Mr. Stevens has completed several outstanding achievements during his term of service, including his instrumental role in constructing a Volunteer Village by assisting with tree removal, water and sewer line installation, building campsites, gravel placement, and storage building installation. With his help, the site is now able to accommodate up to nine volunteer camping

units on full-hookup campsites, in addition to extra park host campsites. This has been crucial to the success of the local volunteer program.

Tracy Stevens has continually saved the project office the time and expense of contract costs, and has frequently been called upon to assist with repair and maintenance of facilities. He was part of a two-man volunteer team that completely installed a new water line, which allowed the Corps to offer additional services to the public in Lakeview Park on Bull Shoals Lake. He also assisted with air conditioning system repairs at the project office and in several gatehouses.

Recently, Mr. Stevens assisted with conducting sign replacement at both Norfolk and Bull Shoals Lakes. In addition, Tracy assists with the annual mobility-impaired deer hunt and annual youth deer hunt.

Overall, Tracy Stevens has contributed more than 6,600 hours of volunteer service. We consider Tracy a valuable part of the team. His uninterrupted dedication and loyalty to the Mountain Home Project Office for 5 consecutive years, has earned him well-earned recognition.



**Tracy Stevens checks out the Corps Signs.**

### **Ms. Loma Willis**

Ms. Loma Willis was a volunteer at the Mountain Home Project Office for more than 2½ years. During that time, Loma donated 2,880 volunteer hours to the project office, proving herself to be a great asset. She assisted the Duty Ranger at the front desk: answered the phones, greeted visitors, answered questions, and provided them with area information. She maintained brochure supplies in the visitor center; sold annual passes; and assisted with much needed filing and record keeping.



**Loma Willis greeting visitors at Mountain Home Lake**

Corps Foundation attends USACE agency meeting at National Association for Interpretation Conference in Corpus Christi, Texas



In November, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) employees and Corps Foundation volunteers attended the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) National Conference in Corpus Christi, Texas. USACE Senior Policy Advisor for Park Ranger Activities, Steve Austin (in uniform) led an agency meeting. Corps Foundation Director, Pat Barry provided a presentation about the recent significant accomplishments of the Corps Foundation. National Water Safety Program Manager, Pam Doty (far right) and Corps Foundation, Special Programs Director, Rachel Garren (far left) provided information about the successful "Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns" campaign. Tammy Cleveland, national recipient of the Hiram M. Chittenden Award from North Atlantic Division is second from the left. Monty Biggs, Northwest Division Chittenden Award recipient, from Bonneville Lock and Dam is behind her and Renae Guin, Chittenden Award Winner from DeGray Lake, Mississippi River Division is third from right in the front row.

## Many Ways to Support the Corps Foundation

### Special Offer – Logo Tote Bag with New or Renewed Corps Foundation Memberships

Good news! There is still time to renew your support of the Corps Foundation in 2016 and receive your canvas logo tote bag with a contribution of \$50 or more. The Corps Foundation is a recipient of 4imprint® company's *one by one*® product grants, which has enabled us to provide the tote bags as a premium while your support goes directly to the programs and services benefitting Corps of Engineers lakes, lands and waterways nationwide. To join us and receive your tote bag visit [www.corpsfoundation.org](http://www.corpsfoundation.org) and click on "join" or complete and mail in the donation form included in this newsletter.

### Fill Up Your Corps Foundation Tote Bag with Great Food Products from Omaha Steaks and Multiply Your Investment in our Programs



Through Steaks for Good, you can shop steaks, pork chops, chicken, vegetables and more, and 10% of your order will go directly to our fundraising goal! With over 80 retail stores in 26 states, you may have a store near you – just mention when checking out that you would like to have your purchase benefit the Corps Foundation through Steaks for Good. You can also order by phone at 800-994-7455 or online. See our special product packages at: <http://bit.ly/1N9rXQG>. They make great holiday gifts!

### Holiday Shop Online through Amazon Smile and Contribute to the Corps Foundation

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way to support the Corps Foundation every time you shop at Amazon, and at no additional cost. From your web browser simply go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) and then select the Corps Foundation as your charitable organization of choice. The Amazon Smile Foundation will donate .5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. You get the same prices and Amazon shopping experience you have come to know, but with the added benefit of knowing that you are helping the Corps Foundation.



Remember us this time of year as you think about tax-deductible donations!





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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100        | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 Lifetime Membership |  |

**\*Contributors at levels of \$50 and above will receive the Corps Foundation logo tote bag, while supplies last.**



## Payment

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Please return this form with your check payable to CNREF, c/o Dave Wahus, 422 Silver Fox Lane, Pisgah Forest, NC 28768. If you prefer, you can renew your membership online by visiting the Foundation's website at [www.corpsfoundation.org](http://www.corpsfoundation.org).

**Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation, is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, tax ID #20-5545091**

Your donation may be tax deductible to you as permitted by Federal law for nonprofit organizations.

Your support helps Corps projects and Corps friends groups connect, grow, and increase their capacity to fulfill the Corps' natural resource education mission on lakes and waterways across the United States.

Find out more at the Foundation's website: [www.CorpsFoundation.org](http://www.CorpsFoundation.org)

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