



Welcome to the March / April 2017 Edition of the Corps Foundation Newsletter.

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The Corps Foundation announces \$400,000 Gift/Grant given toward Upgrades to the Ballard Locks Fish Ladder Viewing Area.



Jim Adams (left) of Discover Your Northwest and Rich Deline of the Corps Foundation, two non-profits supporting visitor education at the Locks, accept the check from Claire Bishop of the Birkenfeld Trust.

Col. John Buck, Army Corps of Engineers Seattle District Commander (right) acknowledges the single largest gift nationally to a Corps of Engineers facility.

Seattle's Chittenden Locks gets a major private grant

In December of 2016, a Challenge Grant in the amount of \$400,000 from the C. Keith Birkenfeld Memorial Trust was received for the planned renovations of the Fish Ladder Viewing Areas at the Hiram M. Chittenden/Ballard Locks in Seattle.

This gift will be managed in partnership with the Corps Foundation, Discover Your Northwest, Jones & Jones Architects and the Seattle District Corps of Engineers. No financial contributions will be required by the Corps of Engineers but engineering oversight will be provided on structurally related areas.

The Birkenfeld grant is significant in both the amount received as well as being the first step in a major campaign to provide long needed improvements to the visitor education facilities at the Locks.

“We are delighted to support this important educational effort that will reach both local and international visitors and inspire others to support the renovation efforts as well”, said Director Claire Bishop of the C. Keith Birkenfeld Memorial Trust.

The Birkenfeld Grant has indeed inspired others and additional funding is forthcoming from individual memorial gifts as well as State and local organizations. We anticipate starting renovations the fall of 2017 during the Locks Centennial year. Stay tuned for further development on www.ballardlocks.org



Artist's conception of the improved fish viewing area at the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks in Seattle

Corps Foundation and Bass Pro Shops to Honor Volunteers

First initiated in 2016, the Corps Foundation will again honor the long-term commitment and outstanding accomplishments of individuals and families at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakes, lands and waterways by presenting the “Enduring Service Volunteer Awards” in summer of 2017. The application deadline for this year’s award is April 30, and we will announce winners from among the many qualified nominees this summer. 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 record of accomplishment of community engagement and working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on a number of successful conservation, recreation and water safety programs.



Second Corps Foundation Annual Report Released in March

Here is the link: <http://docdro.id/9bU7F13>

If you have not yet reviewed our 2016 annual report released in March, please check it out at <http://docdro.id/9bU7F13>. The Corps Foundation is proud to share this four-page summary of our accomplishments in 2016. 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.

Here are a few highlights from the 2016 Annual Report:

- The Corps Foundation presented the Enduring Service Awards to our first honorees, Bob Kendrick at Mark Twain Lake in Missouri and Pauline and Orville Nichols at Keystone Lake in Oklahoma, who together have logged nearly 50 years of combined outstanding service at these sites.

- Release of the “Toolkit for Developing a Cooperating Association in Partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.” The Toolkit is a useful reference for nonprofit organizations and local Corps of Engineers staff.
- Delivery of Certified Interpretive Guide training for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers employees and others.
- Partnership with Burgerville, a Pacific Northwest fast food chain, to promote water safety awareness to children through distribution of “Bobber the Water Safety Dog” coloring sheets.
- Corps Foundation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Operations Center for Water Safety received several awards for the “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” water safety campaign at the 2016 International Boating and Water Safety Summit in San Diego. The Corps Foundation was also awarded a second grant in the amount of \$175,000 to expand the “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” campaign.
- The Corps Foundation facilitated transportation grants at Libby Dam in Montana and the Lake Ouachita Field office in Arkansas that enabled a total of 682 grade school students to take part in the “Every Kid in a Park” initiative . The grants were provided by the National Park Foundation.

The Corps Foundation recently completed its Annual Work Plan for 2017.

In addition to continuing work on several of the above efforts, here are a few initiatives we expect to complete in 2017:

- Develop working partnerships with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and like-mission nonprofit and for-profit organizations.
- Support U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Volunteer and Partnership awards by providing plaques and medallions.
- Advocate with key leaders on issues affecting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Natural Resource Management program.
- Representation at Visitor Assistance Courses and Districts to promote awareness of Corps Foundation with rangers who manage partnerships at the local level.
- Attend the 2017 NRM National Workshop in Norman, Oklahoma to provide training and outreach to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers leadership.
- Develop and promote “Amazon Smile” and other cause marketing campaigns.
- Update case statement for support & adapt for key constituencies.

- Develop a membership plan to more strategically identify, cultivate & engage prospective and new members.
- Support Advisory Council to provide strategic input and extend our outreach.
- Support Communications Committee in development and implementation of communications plan.
- Establish Nominations/Governance Committee to develop a Succession Plan for board recruitment and review of governance documents.
- Explore diversified sources of revenue (philanthropy, grant management, corporate, In-kind support, memberships, fees).
- Submit new 2017/2018 Coast Guard grant proposal and implement 2016/2017 Coast Guard grant.

Corps Foundation Co-sponsors the National Association for Interpretation's (NAI) Pocket Guide for Certified Interpretive Guides

If you have taken a Certified Interpretive Guide Course recently you received a copy of the Interpreter's Pocket Guide. This two-sided card serves as a reminder of some of the key messages covered during the class. Rachel Garren and Pat Barry were inspired to have the Corps Foundation sponsor it when they attended the 2016 NAI conference. They contacted the National Association for Interpretation and we ended up as co-sponsors with InterpTrain, a company owned by renowned NAI trainer Roger Riolo. Now, everyone who takes the class will see our logo and perhaps investigate the Corps Foundation.

Certified Interpretive Guide Approach to Communication

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR INTERPRETATION

INTERPRETER'S pocket guide

PURPOSEFUL: Aligns with the mission and accomplishes measurable objectives

ORGANIZED: Uses introduction, body, conclusion to convey theme and subthemes

ENGAGING: Uses multiple learning styles and techniques to connect to the audience

THEMATIC: Provokes thought or action by delivering a message

RELEVANT: Makes emotional and intellectual connections

YOU: Creates flexibility to design appropriate experiences for specific audiences

The National Association for Interpretation inspires leadership and excellence to advance heritage interpretation as a profession.

www.interpnet.com

This product is produced in partnership with:

THE CORP'S FOUNDATION

www.CorpFoundation.org

INTERPRETATION

Through interpretation understanding, through understanding appreciation, through appreciation protection.

—Freeman Tilden

National Volunteer Recognition at Canton Lake

The staff at Canton Lake recognized Clifton & Debbie Willeford with the National Volunteer Excellence Coin and the Commander's Award for their volunteer service. Awesome job by our awesome volunteers and the Canton Lake staff for going the extra mile and recognizing their great volunteers.



Congratulations to Heather Burke

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Partnership Program Manager Heather Burke received the Agency Leadership Award from the Public Lands Alliance, the organization formerly known as the Partnership for Public Lands. Heather manages the Corps' national program from her office in Portland, Oregon.

Heather has been extremely helpful as a liaison between the Corps Foundation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Here is the award and the text of the award brochure she received during the Public Lands Alliance annual conference:



Agency Leadership Award

The Agency Leadership Award recognizes a land management agency employee for outstanding accomplishments in championing, cultivating and leading a partnership. The award is presented to an individual employed by a federal or state public land management agency.

These individuals were presented with the Agency Leadership Award:

- Heather Burke (Portland, OR) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Rich Fedorchak (Estes Park, CO) National Park Service



Heather Burke, center on right, holding her award. Congratulations!

Corps Foundation Closes the Calendar Year on a High Note

The Corps Foundation continued to grow its outreach, financial resources, and programmatic impact throughout 2016. Private, nonprofit financial support from memberships, individual contributions, memorial gifts and businesses grew nearly 75% over 2015.

In addition, the Corps Foundation secured a new major government grant commitment from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Foundation administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. This grant, developed in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Water Safety Program will significantly expand the “Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns” water safety awareness initiative launched in 2015.

Other notable achievements included the successful introduction of the Corps Foundation Enduring Service Awards honoring long-term volunteer service and outstanding accomplishments by individuals and families at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operated lakes and waterways. Together, our first honorees Bob Kendrick at Mark Twain Lake in Missouri and Pauline and Orville Nichols at Keystone Lake in Oklahoma have logged nearly 50 years of combined outstanding service at these sites.

Water Safety Campaign Recognized by the U.S. Coast Guard



Articles by Rachel Garren, Corps Foundation Special Programs Director, and Pam Doty, National Water Safety Program Manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, are posted in the USCG Proceedings magazine available online at <http://www.uscg.mil/proceedings/> .

The Proceedings contains two articles with information about the “Life Jackets Worn... Nobody Mourns” campaign. Rachel Garren authored, “A Focus on Boater Safety: Using feedback to plot the campaign,” and Pam Doty contributed, “One Life Lost Is Too Many: Saving lives using education and enforcement.”

Please read and share these timely articles.

From Rachel Garren, CIT, CIGT
Special Programs Director



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



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

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Corps of Engineers Natural Resource Education Foundation

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Membership Renewal, Your Support Makes a Difference!

Please enter your contact information in the space below.

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Contribution Level Payment

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

Please indicate your contribution level:

___ \$25

___ \$250

___ Other: \$ _____

___ \$50*

___ \$500

___ \$100

___ \$1000 Lifetime Membership

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

