



Welcome to Fall 2022 Edition

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In this issue:

- Foundation Welcomes New Board Member, Kent Dunlap
- Corps Foundation Welcomes New Board Member – Avis Kennedy
- Corps Foundation Congratulates Viola Bramel
- Enduring Service Award Presentations 2021
- Congratulations to Lesley McClintock
- Life Jackets Worn... Nobody Mourns Campaign Grants 5 & 6 Updates
- Life Jacket Video Contest 2022 Results & 2023 Launch
- Send Some Smiles to the Corps Foundation!
- Your Support Makes a Difference

Foundation Welcomes New Board Member Kent Dunlap!

The Corps Foundation is thrilled to welcome Kent Dunlap to its Board of Directors!



Kent comes to the Foundation with an impressive range of skills and experiences from his 40-year career with the Operations Program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He began his career as a GS-4 Park Technician in Oklahoma and continued his advancement to eventually serve as the GS-14 Operations Project Manager with the Fort Worth District in Oklahoma. Kent augmented his Operations positions with many other assignments and opportunities throughout the agency.

Kent is an Oklahoma native who grew up recreating at local Corps managed lakes in Oklahoma, that formed his love and passion for what outdoor recreation can offer. In particular Kent learned early in life that lakes managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers were central to families creating memories and traditions. When it came time for Kent to find a path for his career, he knew that he wanted to be a Park Ranger for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The Foundation looks forward to utilizing the broad perspectives and experiences of Kent's career to move its programs and advocacy forward. But most importantly, in Kent's own words, "I understand how the Corps "works", the budget process from every level, the partners that are a key for us, and the challenges. And honestly, I bring a passion to support this mission, even after retirement."

Thank you, Kent, for wanting to be part of what we do and we look forward to putting his passion and skills to work!

By Nancy Rogers, Board Member

Corps Foundation Welcomes New Board Member – Avis Kennedy!



The Corps Foundation Board of Directors is excited to welcome Avis Kennedy as it's its newest member to the Board!

Avis worked for 33 years in the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Management Program in its Nashville District- including positions as Park Ranger, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Conservation Biologist, and 15 years at the Chief of Natural Resources Management Branch for the Nashville District.

Along the way, she also served in temporary positions as Planner, Resource Manager at Cordell Hull and J. Percy Priest Lakes, and Chief, Regulatory Branch. In 2008, she served temporarily as the national Business Line Manager for Stewardship in the Corps Headquarters, and was awarded the Nashville District's Distinguished Civilian Award. Although Avis retired in 2011, she decided to return to work In 2017 to take a job as Project Manager for revision of the Raystown Lake Master Plan in Baltimore District. She retired again in 2019 just after receiving her 35-year pin.

Avis has a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Southern Illinois University. She served two years as the Chair of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Regional Resource Stewardship Council and eight years as a Council member. Avis was previously a member of the Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation Advisory Council. Avis wants to use her skills in public speaking and writing to bring broader knowledge of the Corps Foundation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Recreation program to the general public and Congressional legislators.

Avis and her husband split their time between Nashville and Anna Maria, FL. and have one son.

Corps Foundation Congratulates Viola Bramel

Viola Bramel is this year's winner of the Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Interpretive Excellence. If that name is familiar, it is because Viola received the award in 1996, early in her career. Viola joins Timothy C. Bischoff as the only people who have received the award twice during their illustrious careers.

When Viola's award is posted on the Corps Natural Resources Management Gateway, you can read all about her many accomplishments. Until then, just to give you a hint about who she is, read chapter nine of the book, "Park Ranger Stories from The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: A Collection of Stories, Interviews, and Memories from Corps Park Rangers and Other Natural Resources Management Professionals."

Viola once told me, "I wouldn't ask any of the people I supervise to do something I wouldn't do myself." I think that is a sign of a good leader. Congratulations on behalf of the Corps Foundation.

By Pat Barry, Newsletter Editor

Enduring Service Award Presentations

The Foundation's Enduring Service Volunteer Award honors the long-term service and outstanding accomplishments of volunteer individuals and families. The Corps Foundation announced the 2021 "Enduring Service" awardees in our summer newsletter. The awards were subsequently presented at the lake projects and we would like to share some photos taken during the presentations. This year's award winners are:

Ray Garner, 20 years of dedicated service and more than 25,000 hours as a volunteer at Eufaula Lake, Oklahoma. Mr. Garner has proven himself an invaluable asset and instrumental member in the continued success and operation of the Eufaula Lake Project.

Chip Parrill and Kathy Parrill, 7 years of dedicated service at Jennings Randolph Lake, West Virginia. The Jennings Randolph Lake has benefited immensely from the Parrill's community involvement, compassion and dedication to project and its visitors.



USACE Baltimore District Lt. Colonel Myers and Deputy Chief Lacy Evans were on site to present the Corps Foundation Enduring Service award to Chip and Kathy Parrill on July 23, 2022. The Parrill's were selected as the 2021 Enduring Service Award couple of the year for their outstanding dedication and service to the Corps and Jennings Randolph Lake. Members of their family and friends attended the ceremony to see them receive this award.



Ray Garner, a Eufaula Lake volunteer with more than 20 years of service, was selected as a 2021 Corps Foundation Enduring Service Award recipient. On Wednesday, 20 July 2022, Tulsa District Office and Eastern Area leadership gathered to present Ray with his plaque and \$250 cash award.

The Corps Foundation initiated the National Enduring Service Volunteer Award to honor the long-term commitment and outstanding accomplishments of individuals and families who volunteer at Corps lakes, lands and waterways. The award recognizes the legacy of volunteers who serve at least six years at a US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) project. Since the beginning of the award the Corps Foundation has partnered with Bass Pro Shops to annually recognize the long-term service and accomplishments by volunteers at USACE lakes who have achieved results in such areas as fisheries, conservation, education, recreation, safety and community engagement.

Congratulations to Lesley McClintock

We received an early report that Lesley McClintock, former park ranger at Bonneville Lock and Dam, won first place in the National Association for Interpretation (NAI) Media Awards in the “Pandemic Pivot” category. As the name suggests, this was a change in plans – a pivot - resulting from the pandemic. In this case, Lesley, supported by staff from Natural Resources Management and Interpretation plus volunteers, painted a mural at the Bonneville Lock and Dam Visitor Center Located on the Columbia River. This was no ordinary mural. This one was 135 feet long, 8.5 feet high and visually portrayed the Journey of the Pacific Salmon. The location was along a sheltered outdoor ramp where visitors access a building featuring an underwater view of a fish ladder. The Corps Foundation congratulates Lesley and all involved on this magnificent accomplishment.

Here is a link to the project: <https://clipchamp.com/watch/HuIe6jeGAwI>

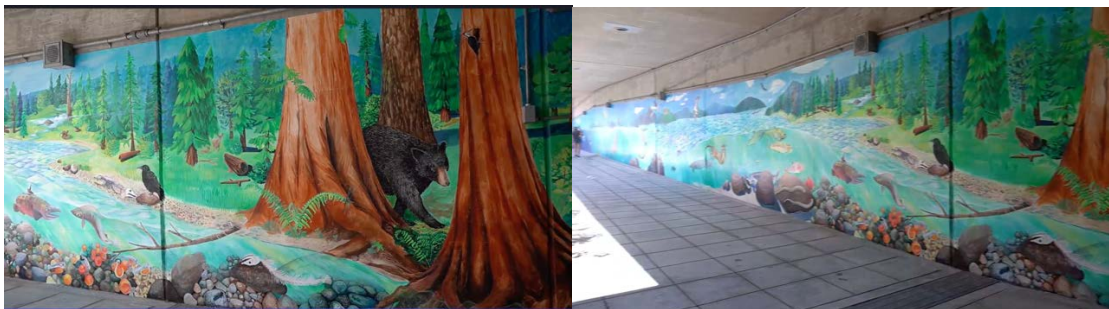
Here are some details of the mural: There are also lesson plans about this mural for school groups visiting the dam.



A park visitor films the mural from one end to another.



Lesley and an unnamed volunteer adding details to the mural.





If you have an opportunity to get to the Washington Shore Visitor Complex at Bonneville Lock and Dam do not miss this mural. The Corps Foundation congratulates Lesley for being recognized by NAI and for accomplishing this enormous and stunning work of art. We also encourage park managers to seek every opportunity to unleash the creative efforts and to recognize accomplishments of rangers and volunteers.

By Pat Barry, Newsletter Editor

Life Jackets Worn... Nobody Mourns Campaign Grants 5 & 6 Updates

In late 2022, The Corps Foundation, completed their 5th grant, funded Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the US. Coast Guard (USCG) and began work on their 6th grant, which is also a three-year grant. Current grants funds include \$150,000 each year to promote the award-winning Life Jackets Worn... Nobody Mourns campaign targeting high-risk, adult boaters in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

By the end of our 5th grant, there was phenomenal growth on the **Please Wear It** social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) and Facebook had attracted 21,863 followers. On social media, we will continue to promote two big giveaways each year and the Life Jacket Video Contest in partnership with USACE.

The completed grant involved the purchase of campaign promotional products that included logo patches, long-sleeve t-shirts, 22-inch-square bandanas, 2 feet by 4 feet vinyl banners, beach towels, dry bags, vehicle windshield sunshades, and short-sleeve t-shirts. Promotional products will continue to be purchased and distributed through social media giveaways and to USACE to distribute primarily through “I Got Caught” initiatives.

Grant funds have been used to purchase campaign advertisements through a variety of avenues like state fishing guides, movie theater ads, and billboards in areas where USACE lakes and rivers have the most water-related fatalities. In the new grant, we will explore other advertising avenues to promote the campaign.

The USCG reported a 25.1% increase in boating fatalities in 2020 compared to 2019, and USACE reported a 22% increase in water-related fatalities in the same time frame. Despite those increases, there was a 7% decrease in USACE water-related fatalities when comparing five years prior to the launch of this campaign in 2016, to five years post-campaign launch. This downward trend is remarkable considering the 2020 increase in fatalities and growth in water-based recreation.

Campaign success is thanks to all those who work together to promote the campaign, especially USACE. However, many lives are still lost each year on our nation's waterways so there's work to be done and we need your continued help. Be sure to follow Please Wear It on social media and explore the Campaign Resource Guide at www.PleaseWearIt.com for ideas on what you can do to further promote the campaign.

Life Jacket Video Contest 2022 Results & 2023 Launch

The 2022 Life Jacket Video Contest had a double winner for the first time! Lauren Stamper won \$8,000 for her 25- and 55-second videos. We had 24 videos entered by 18 entrants.

The 2023 Life Jacket Video Contest was launched on October 19, 2022 and it ends on September 8, 2023. The winner(s) of the 25-second-long video will get \$2,500 and the 55-second-long video winner(s) will get \$5,500. Share the www.LifeJacketVideoContest.com website with those you know who might be interested in creating a video that encourages adults to wear a life jacket and winning some cash. You can also view all the winning videos from the past three years on that website.

The Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns campaign, including this contest, are managed through a partnership between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Operations Center for Water Safety and the Corps Foundation. Prize money for the video contest is funded through a Corps Foundation grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, administered by the U.S. Coast Guard. Thanks to everyone, including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers offices that helped to promote the contest.

Send Some Smiles to the Corps Foundation!

One simple way you can help the Corps Foundation is to donate to the Foundation through Amazon Smile. If you are like most people, you've been ordering more online than ever. Amazon Smile gives you an opportunity to send a small contribution every time you order.

See the website for more details:

<https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/dashboard/ref=smi se mirp dshb smi>

IMPORTANT See the USACE Website for updates on the COVID-19 Pandemic

https://www.usace.army.mil/Coronavirus/fbclid/IwAR0Wxq9t_2TqIm67Qnh-9IkNU27avZfXxaVWH_Q9IU317OdcUfowu2G2c58/

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You can make the difference in programs and partnerships that are critical to providing improved services to the visiting public- *like you!* We are fully managed and operated by volunteers so your support is used directly for priority program initiatives, not administrative overhead.

Please join by visiting our website at www.CorpsFoundation.org, and clicking on the "Donate Now" button takes you to our membership form.

While supplies last, if you donate at the \$50 level or higher, you'll receive a logo dry bag for your next boating adventure!

Follow us on [Facebook!](#)

Membership Renewal: Your Support Makes a Difference!

Please enter your contact information in the space below.

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Address:

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Email:

Phone number:



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

Your Support Makes a Difference!

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 for you as permitted by Federal law for nonprofit organizations. Your support of the Corps Foundation helps U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects and friend's groups connect, grow, and increase their capacity to fulfill USACE's 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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