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Corps Foundation Completes One of its Most Successful Years!

The Corps Foundation continues to gather momentum under the leadership of Chairperson Greg Miller. In 2019, the Corps Foundation added many accomplishments to its resume. Here are some of the highlights:

- Completed the fourth Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund grant managed by the U.S. Coast Guard for the Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns Water Safety Campaign.
- Selected three winners for the Enduring Service Award, including our long-time Board Treasurer and founding member Darrell E. Lewis.
- Added three new Board members: Len Cardoza, Sue Clevenstine and Pep Persio.
- Selected a new Treasurer, Marilyn Jones.
- Sponsored and Facilitated a National Association for Interpretation Certified Interpretive Guide Course at Caesar Creek Lake in Ohio.
- Cosponsored the National Association for Interpretation Pocket Guides which summarize key messages from the Certified Interpretive Guide Course and are distributed to all course participants.
- Collected stories from about 70 contributors for the forthcoming anthology, 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.

• Held a productive in-person Board Meeting in the Portland District Office of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
• Our board’s Communication Director, Pat Barry, received the Senior/Retired Interpreter of the Year Award from the National Association for Interpretation.
• Received “Lifesaver of the Year Award” from National Drowning Prevention Alliance for our efforts to promote the Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns campaign in partnership with USACE.

Three-Year Grant Awarded to Promote Water Safety

The Corps Foundation was awarded a $195,000 grant from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund, managed by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), to promote the Life Jackets Worn...Nobody Mourns campaign in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers National Operations Center for Water Safety. This is our fifth USCG grant, but for the first time this year we received $20,000 more and a three-year grant! If USCG funds remain available in subsequent years, we will have $195,000 per year through September 2022 to spend on this award-winning, life-saving campaign.

The annual grant cycle began October 2019 and it ends September 2020. Our plan is to continue the great promotions at “Please
Wear It” on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. At the time of this writing, we have 10,970 followers on Facebook and that number continues to steadily increase.

The plan is to continue conducting great giveaways on social media. In the 2020 Winter Recreation Photo Bonanza starting January 13, 2020, we’re giving away Life Jackets Worn…Nobody Mourns logo t-shirts to all who enter and entrant’s names will be entered into a drawing for a size 2XL Stearns Camouflage Float Coat.

We plan to purchase more promotional items with the campaign logo on them to use in future social media giveaways. The types of items we’ll be purchasing include t-shirts, beach towels, and patches.

Planning has begun to create an online Video PSA contest that we hope to start in mid-February 2020 and it will end in September 2020. We will be awarding prizes of $5,500 for a 55-second video PSA and $2,500 for a 25-second video PSA that helps to promote life jacket wear to adults.

The Foundation is working with JF Griffin Publishing to place campaign advertisements in ten state fishing guide publications. States with Life Jackets Worn…Nobody Mourns ads in their 2020 guides will include Oregon, Louisiana, Nevada, Indiana, Tennessee, Florida, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Mississippi, and South Carolina. We worked with USACE’s Portland District in
partnership to share costs of purchasing a full-page ad in Oregon’s State Fishing Guide. USACE districts within the South Atlantic Division have worked directly with this publishing company to place a water safety ad in Georgia’s State Fishing Guide for two years now. You can view all these 2020 guides when they are published at www.eregulations.com.

The Foundation is looking forward to another great year of promoting this campaign in partnership with USACE and continuing to save lives on our nation’s waters!

**Corps Foundation Anthology of Park Ranger Stories Nears Completion**

One of the projects the Corps Foundation has pursued during 2019 is the forthcoming anthology, *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.*

About 70 current and former rangers and other Natural Resources Management (NRM) professionals provided input into this informal piece of Corps history.

Corps Foundation Communications Director Pat Barry has worked with many people to complete the anthology. Founding Corps Foundation Board Chairperson Emeritus Peter B. Lewis conducted interviews of such well-known legends in the field as
Gerald Purvis, Sherm Gee, Darrell E. Lewis, Debby Chenoweth, Pete Colangelo, Nancy Rogers, and Marilyn Jones.

Linda Purvis, Graphic Artist and Natural Resources Specialist/Park Ranger, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District volunteered to design the cover and it looks fantastic.

Draft cover design by Linda Purvis

Barry was especially gratified by several contributions to this collection: He said, “We received stories from a wide range of people including a journal from a summer seasonal ranger, the people who ran the program in Washington, DC and many people in between.”

He also expressed gratitude that five of the people who lead the NRM program in Washington, DC participated in this project
including, Mary J. Coulombe, George E. Tabb, Jr., Darrell E. Lewis, Sherm Gee, and Gerald T. Purvis.

Barry also expressed thanks to people who sent materials, answered questions, and contributed in other ways. He said, “It may not take a village to produce an anthology, but when you see the list of acknowledgments, you’ll see dozens of names.”


A few more steps remain before the book becomes available for purchase. It is currently undergoing review by the USACE Public Affairs Office. Then, some editing and formatting will be needed
before people can purchase the book. Stay tuned because the Corps Foundation will let you know when this collection of institutional memory becomes available.

All proceeds will benefit the Corps Foundation, but the stories will benefit anyone who reads them.

**Vietnam Wounded Marine, by former Corps Park Ranger Dennis Daum**


This time, we would like to direct your attention to *Vietnam Wounded Marine*, by former Corps Park Ranger Dennis Daum, Amazon Books, 2019. It is also available through Barnes and Noble and Apple Books.

After serving in the Marine Corps in Vietnam and recovering from his wounds, Mr. Daum worked as a ranger for the National Park Service and the Corps of Engineers. He worked at Fort Randall Dam, Pickstown, South Dakota, Grayson Lake, Grayson Kentucky and in the Omaha District at Gavins Point Dam. You can find his book on Amazon. If you served in Vietnam or want
an account of what life was like during the war, this book is well worth reading.

Here is a description of the book.

**Viet Nam Wounded Marine Overview, By Dennis Daum**

This is a biography of my time in the United States Marine Corps (1966 to 1969), from Marine boot camp where I received the title of a United States Marine to Viet Nam. In Viet Nam.

The mission of our battalion was to keep the North Vietnamese Army from interfering with the barge traffic on the Cau Viet River which resupplied our bases along the river. We also performed search and destroy missions in our area of responsibility where there were an estimated enemy force of 1,700 operating. This was the time of the Tet Offensive of 1968 when the United States suffered its highest number of casualties.

On February 28, 1968, I was part of a 15-man patrol with our mission to check out the village of Nin Ha. Upon crossing a dry rice patty near the village, we were fired upon by an enemy force numbering in the hundreds. While on the ground I was shot seven times. Remaining conscious most of the time I explain in detail my thoughts and actions each time I am hit. I tell of my out of body experience. I also tell of what is happening on the battlefield around me. Without the actions of 1st Sgt. Riley, I would have never survived my wounds. Nothing is hopeless.
Corps Foundation Helps to Sponsor Pocket Guides

Once again, the Corps Foundation is a proud sponsor of the National Association for Interpretation’s Pocket Guide. This time our co-sponsor is the Pacific Whale Foundation.

Front and rear covers of the NAI Pocket Guide

The Pocket Guide is distributed to students who complete the Certified Interpretive Guide Class. This four-day class offers professional certification for interpreters. During the past four years, the Corps Foundation has sponsored and helped instruct four Certified Interpretive Guide courses at, Caesar Creek Visitor
Center near Dayton, Ohio, the Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center in Duluth, Minnesota, the National Great Rivers Museum in Alton, Illinois and the Lewis and Clark Visitor Center in Yankton, South Dakota.

If you are interested in hosting a Certified Interpretive Guide Course please contact Pat Barry at jpatbarry@hotmail.com We will come to you to provide this valuable training for your staff and other interpretive partners in your vicinity.

Face-to-Face Corps Foundation Board Meeting Reviews Successes and Sets New Goals

The normally virtual Corps Foundation Board Meetings went face-to-face for our September 2019 meeting held in Portland, Oregon at the USACE Portland District Office. Considering the far-flung locations of each board member and travel costs, these meetings recur every two or three years. Virtual meetings are undoubtedly a great way to save money and time, but personal connections and full-day meetings are important and more effective when updating our Strategic Plan, annual work plans and grant reviews. These and other essential business components keep the Foundation functional and relevant.

How did we spend our time? We noted that this all-volunteer board has raised over $700,000 to support the Corps of Engineers Water Safety Program, and $1 million to renovate exhibits for the Chittenden Locks Fish Passage Viewing Room in the Seattle District. With all the work still to do, it’s important to take time
and celebrate what we have contributed to support the Corps Natural Resource Management Program.

Next, we updated our Strategic Plan to provide guidance and structure for our work for the next few years. The Annual Work Plan was updated with individual board members assigned to tasks. Of particular note, we reviewed our outreach efforts and how best to modernize and keep them updated. We discussed avenues for sustainability through building capacity and increasing membership, vital to our future.

Finally, we had the lucky circumstance of meeting some Portland District park rangers during a District-wide OMBIL update. This allowed us to make personal connections with those who most benefit from the Foundation’s work.

The Board wishes to thank Melissa Rinehart, Chief, Natural Resources Management Branch, Portland District for her welcoming presence, and support. We would also like to thank Heather Burke, National Program Manager for Partnerships for her coordination of meeting rooms, building access, technical support and as always, helpful guidance to coordinate our efforts with Corps staff at all levels.

The Board welcomes comments and suggestions on how we can support the Corps NRM Program. Please tell us what you think by contacting us via our website- www.corpsfoundation.org
Portland District Office worked with the Corps Foundation, through the National Water Safety Team, to split the cost of a water safety ad in the Oregon Fishing Regulations 2020 booklet.
Corps Foundation Board Member Receives an Award from the National Association for Interpretation

The Corps Foundation Board of Directors is extremely pleased and proud that Pat Barry, our Board’s Communication director was selected for the National Association of Interpretation’s, “Outstanding Senior/Retired Interpreter” award. This award is presented to an NAI member and lifelong interpreter who is no longer working full-time in the profession (but may be working part-time or as a volunteer) and has dedicated his or her lifetime career to interpretation as a frontline interpreter, interpretive manager/administrator, or both. Considering his distinguished career in interpretation, Pat was well deserving of this prestigious award.

After college graduation, and earning a master’s degree, Pat began his career with the National Park Service before landing a job at Bonneville Lock and Dam Visitor Center along the Columbia River in Oregon where he made his home for the majority of his career. Taking into account Pat’s thirty-five years of experience as an interpretive park ranger, and 25 years as a supervisor at the Visitor Center at Bonneville Dam, Pat was a welcome addition to the Corps Foundation’s Board of Directors to fill the role of Communications Director. In this capacity, Pat has been invaluable to our organization producing quarterly newsletters and managing our website and Facebook communications. He was also instrumental in the Corps Foundation sponsorship of Certified Interpretive Guide (CIG)
classes targeted at Corps of Engineer rangers throughout the United States, which has been very successful in elevating the level of interpretive training for park rangers and has resulted in an increased awareness of the Corps Foundation nationwide.

Recently, Pat began a new project to collect and publish an anthology of personal stories from U.S. Army Corps Park rangers and other natural resource management employees. The book, when published, is intended to provide an informal history and institutional memory of the Corps of Engineers’ NRM program from its beginning in the 1960s. The proceeds will provide a financial benefit to the Corps Foundation. Pat’s service to NAI and the interpretive profession has been exemplary and the Corps Foundation Board would like to congratulate Pat for being awarded the NAI “Outstanding Senior/Retired Interpreter” award.
Many Ways to Support the Corps Foundation

Shop Online through AmazonSmile 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 smile.amazon.com and then sign in with your Amazon.com credentials, 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!
Developing Philanthropic Support

Have a Great Steak and Support Corps Lakes!

Through the Steaks for Good program from Omaha Steaks, you can shop for steaks, burgers, chicken, veggies and more, and 10% of every order you make will go towards 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 at www.OmahaSteaks.com/Corps. Simply tell the Omaha Steaks specialist that you are ordering through the Corps Foundation campaign.
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 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 Foundation Newsletter assembled by communications director and editor:
J. Patrick Barry, jpatbarry@hotmail.com Contact him with your story ideas and photos.

Membership Renewal: Your Support Makes a Difference!

Please enter your contact information in the space below.

Name:
Address: ZIP:
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       ___ $1000 Lifetime Membership

**Corps Foundation Board Members:**

Peter Lewis, Founding Board Chairperson Emeritus

Darrell Lewis, Founding Director and Treasurer Emeritus

Greg Miller, Board Chairperson

Marilyn Jones, Treasurer and Secretary

Rich Deline, Founding Director

Nancy Rogers, Advocacy/Outreach Director

Pat Barry, Communications Director

Len Cardoza, Director

Sue Clevenstine, Director

Pep Persio, Director

**Associates:**

Heather Burke, USACE National Partnerships Program Manager

Rachel Garren, Special Programs Director

Christine F. Hamman, Assistant Treasurer