



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

CECW-CO

MAY 20 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS AND DISTRICT COMMANDS, CHIEFS, OPERATIONS DIVISIONS

SUBJECT: Reference Memorandum, CECW-CO, 15 Jan 16, subject: Request for Nominations for the American Recreation Coalition's Legends and Beacon Awards.

1. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has selected Ms. Tamara Schroeder, Park Manager, Willamette Valley Project, Portland District as the recipient of the 2016 American Recreation Coalition's Legends Award.
2. Over the past 25 years, Ms. Schroeder has made improving visitor experiences, community involvement, and partnerships her primary goal. She consistently works to achieve facility improvements, collaborative partnering, public safety and awareness, and resource stewardship for the Corps of Engineers. Ms. Schroeder partnered with Linn County, U. S. Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management to receive \$6.1 million in Federal Highways Access Funds for roadway, parking, bridge, sign and kiosk improvements to the Quartzville Road Corridor at Green Peter Reservoir; she has improved park facilities at Lakeside Park and Schwarz Campground by replacing failing restrooms, providing full service volunteer campsites, and improving accessibility for park visitors. Ms. Schroeder engages in community partnerships to improve recreation opportunities and address recreation trends, tourism and marketing, volunteer recruitment, regional law enforcement, and stewardship issues. She is a respected and influential advocate of recreation within the NRM program for the Corps of Engineers.
3. The American Recreation Coalition has chosen to honor Mr. Jason Knight, Recreation Planner, Tulsa District and Mr. David Gray, Visual Information Specialist, Baltimore District as co-recipients of the 2016 Beacon Award.
4. Mr. Knight has creatively used technology to improve visitor services within the Mobile and Tulsa Districts. His development of a Park Ranger Mobile App provides park rangers with quick and easy access in the field to a wide variety of information pertaining to their lakes and area such as emergency contacts, Corps regulations and policies, lake maps, forms, shoreline management applications, flood elevation information, citation/warning history, brochures, accident reporting, and natural resource information. Mr. Knight's innovative app has significantly enhanced ranger and public safety, and provided improved and timely service to the public at Corps lakes.

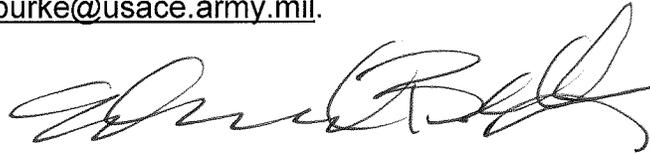
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SUBJECT: Legends and Beacon Award 2016 Recipients

5. Mr. Gray has demonstrated a strong commitment and passion to support Corps missions and the public. He has created lake overview videos that promote Baltimore District recreation opportunities via YouTube channels, a smartphone app, and the Tioga-Hammond Cowanesque Visitor Center. Mr. Gray has created 360° online lake tours of five lakes in the Baltimore District, as well as videos from special hunts at Jennings Randolph Lake. Mr. Gray has greatly improved the Baltimore District's ability to tell the Corps story in recreation, environmental stewardship, flood risk management, water supply, and navigation by working diligently to stay relevant to young people and non-traditional visitors.

6. The Legend and Beacon award winners from each agency will be honored at a ceremony during the American Recreation Coalition's Partners Outdoors annual Conference to be held 1-2 June 2016 in Washington, D.C. Ms. Schroeder's, Mr. Knight's, and Mr. Gray's accomplishments and efforts bring positive recognition to the Corps of Engineers and our partners. Their commitment to excellence has established a distinguished standard for others to emulate.

7. Point of Contact. Ms. Heather Burke, HQUSACE National Partnership Program Manager, 503-808-4313, heather.d.burke@usace.army.mil.



EDWARD E. BELK, JR., P.E.
Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division
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