

HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN AWARD FOR INTERPRETIVE EXCELLENCE

Executive Summary

Carmen B. Boyette **Natural Resources Specialist**

Carmen Boyette is a leader among her peers with exceptional character and organizational skills. She serves as the leader of the Wilmington District Water Safety & Environmental Education Teams. These leadership positions along with her other responsibilities reflect the respect she has earned for her integrity, professional skills, devotion to duty, and selfless service. Some highlights from her recent work are described below.

In addition to her District leadership roles, Ms. Boyette fulfills regional responsibilities as a co-representative for the Wilmington District on the South Atlantic Division Water Safety Team. Ms. Boyette facilitated major improvements to the District's Recreation Web-Page, bringing the site in line with Corps' standards and providing improved customer functions. She has developed and maintains three SharePoint sites serving rangers and natural resource specialists, volunteer coordinators, and environmental educators. These sites are excellent resources providing a hub for access to program materials, photos, policy, procedures, and current actions.

Carmen Boyette is an innovator. She constantly seeks new interpretive programs and outreach opportunities, and most importantly, ensures creative ideas and programs are shared across project boundaries. Her efforts have elevated SAW's outreach program, substantially increasing the quality and quantity of interpretive contacts across the District. Further, she directly promoted the implementation of aggressive outreach programs at the 2010 South Atlantic Division Park Ranger Conference.

Ms. Boyette has great passion for increasing public awareness to maximize the safety of their visit and educating them on the natural environment and the complexities and varied missions of the Corps of Engineers. Ms. Boyette possesses a tremendous respect from her peers internal and external to the Corps. Through these relationships, interpretive limits have been broadened into areas that have seen limited exposure in the past. She frequently presents new ideas and immediately progresses the ideas to implementation. Not only does she provide leadership to these program areas, she is the first to volunteer for the frontlines of an outreach or interpretive event.

For all these achievements, contributions and more, we proudly nominate Carmen Boyette for the Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Interpretive Excellence.