

Jason: For your consideration, I wish to submit on behalf of the Clearwater Project Office the following nominations for USACE Volunteer Coins. They wish to recognize these two super outstanding volunteers, Mr. Bill Johnston and Mr. Gale Wells; Messrs. Johnston and Wells each have given 250+ hours of service to the Corps of Engineers.

During the past 2 years, Clearwater Lake volunteers Bill Johnston and Gale Wells have gone above and beyond the call of duty assisting the staff at the Clearwater Lake Project Office. Bill and Gale have exhibited enthusiasm, know how, and a willingness to tackle any project that has been presented to them. They have provided excellent and appreciated visitor assistance to our lake visitors; hardly a day goes by when Bill and Gale are not helping a visitor set up a camper or working together with a visitor on a project. This spring when Clearwater Lake was on its way to reaching record levels and the auxiliary spillway was likely to be used, Bill and Gale were there, removing materials and equipment from Project's lower compound storage sheds, which were in the path of the auxiliary spillway waters. They then remained on site all day protecting the public and informing them of potential hazards as visitors wanted to view the event. Last winter Bill assisted staff with the replacement of 396 campsite markers. Even on the coldest days Bill's sense of humor and work ethic made working fun. This fall when a member of our staff was deployed to the Hurricane Harvey mission, Gale assisted project NRM staff with the planting of food plots; through the dust and the heat Gale did an outstanding job. When a mobility impaired hunter did not have an assistant for Clearwater's managed deer hunt Bill and Gale volunteered happily offering to help; the collaboration resulting in a successful deer hunt and many great memories for that hunter. Bill and Gale's contributions to the Clearwater Lake Project have made a significant positive impact. Whether they were frying fish for Veteran's before a managed hunt, cooking hot dogs for Boy Scouts on Earth Day, or building something with their own tools, it seemed that there was no job that life-long friends Bill Johnston and Gale Wells could not do.

