



*In Touch
With
Take Pride*

June 2007

Greetings from the Executive Director

A Look Ahead...

June 2007

[Great Outdoors Month](#)

June 11-15, 2007

[Great Outdoors Week](#)

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[Great American
Backyard Campout](#)

June 29 – July 5, 2007

[National Clean Beaches
Week](#)

Dear Readers,

I hope all of you are enjoying a delightful summer! Now that school is out, for many of you, this is a great opportunity to introduce young people to nature and the importance of lending a hand on our Nation's public lands! There are several volunteer opportunities right at your fingertips at www.TakePride.gov. By entering simply your zip code, volunteer projects pop up in your community. It doesn't get any easier, and what better time than now to teach young people the great things our public lands have to offer!

This month it is my pleasure to announce the 2007 Take Pride in America National Award Winners. Hundreds of nominations were submitted and we are truly inspired by your time and sacrifice in the name of conservation. Congratulations to this year's winners!

Sincerely,

Heather Roebke



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2007 TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA® NATIONAL AWARD WINNERS!

Individual

Carolle and Glenn Aldinger; Chincoteague, VA
Marlene M. Lugg; Winnetka, CA
James C. Thompson; Ardmore, OK

School Program

Wetlands Education Team; West Geauga Middle School,
Chesterland, OH

Non-Profit Organization

The Friends of Hunting Island State Park, Inc. Loggerhead
Sea Turtle Conservation Project; Saint Helena Island, SC

Corporation

The Power Washers of North America; Quakertown, PA

Public/Private Partnership

California Golden Trout Restoration Program; Golden Trout
Wilderness, CA

State Event / Program

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission;
Ridge Rangers; Lake Placid, FL

Federal Event/Program

Antietam National Battlefield Volunteers; Sharpsburg, MD

Local Government Event

City of Clifton Clean Communities Program; Clifton, NJ

Faith-Based Group

Arapahoe and Aurora Colorado Stakes of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Youth / Youth Group

Riley's Lockhouse Docents; Hagerstown, MD

Take Pride School Spotlight

Students and faculty members from Wing Public School, a Take Pride School, pitched in for a spring cleanup removing debris from an astonishing 48 miles of road!

Thanks to the volunteers and community contributors, their town is a brighter and cleaner place to be. Congratulations to Wing Public School in Wing, North Dakota for a job well done!



New Take Pride School!

**Hyattsville Elementary School,
Hyattsville, MD**

Sign Up To Be A Take Pride School!

The Take Pride School program involves elementary, middle and high schools in creating a new generation of volunteers to act as stewards over our public resources.

Take Pride Schools accomplish 2 volunteer projects every school year. Projects may be done by the school, a classroom or a club. Projects must be on public lands (public schools included!), promote Take Pride's message, and benefit public use of public land. Participating schools earn materials and supplies for volunteer projects, and are eligible for Take Pride awards. To learn more about this program, visit us at: <http://www.takepride.gov/programs/schools.cfm>

Volunteer Spotlight

Recently in South Carolina, a small, but hard working group of volunteers collected 50 bags of trash, four car tires, two lawn chairs, and two tents during a three hour cleanup at Wilson's Landing and the Fish Hatchery in Berkeley County. To learn how you can volunteer on public lands in South Carolina, visit [PalmettoPride: Keeping South Carolina Beautiful](#) for a list of places and ways you can help out!



In the News...

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA® ANNOUNCES ONGOING PARTNERSHIP WITH TOYOTA

Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc. and Take Pride in America recently announced that they will continue their partnership in 2007. Toyota first partnered with a Take Pride event in 2006 and plans to expand their support in 2007 and 2008.

Specifically, Toyota and Take Pride will focus on the Take Pride in America Schools program with a new campaign called Creating a New Generation of Volunteers. The public awareness campaign will teach students the importance of caring for public lands and the environment. Toyota will donate a Prius to be used by Take Pride in their Voluntours, a series of regional tours which will promote the program and recognize participating Take Pride schools. Additionally, Toyota will sponsor the Take Pride in America School Award which will be presented to the school with the most active volunteer participation and community impact.

To learn about ways that your organization can become a Take Pride Partner, visit our website at www.takepride.gov or call (202) 208-5848.

TAKE PRIDE IN AMERICA® ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS OF THE 2007 NATIONAL AWARD FOR FEDERAL LAND MANAGERS

Kevin D. Brandt, Superintendent, Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park, National Park Service; Hagerstown, MD

Tara Whitsel, Park Ranger, Raystown Lake, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Hesston, PA

Steve Brimm, Project Leader, D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Spearfish, SD

Thomas M. Pogacnik, Wild Horse and Burro Program Manager, California State Office, Bureau of Land Management; Sacramento, CA

Jack Simes, External Coordination Manager, Lower Colorado Region, Yuma Area Office, Bureau of Reclamation; Yuma, AZ



Volunteer Spotlight

A local DE Good Sam Chapter, the Delmarva Happy Campers, picked up trash and debris at the Assateague Island National Seashore on Saturday, May 12, 2007 from morning to afternoon for a cleanup day. 19 members volunteered picking up trash along the shore and had a great time. Many thanks to the Good Sam Club for passing this along!

Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge Volunteer Receives America the Beautiful Volunteer Pass

Carl Zenger of Lockport, NY became the first volunteer at Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), and the first in the Northeast Region of the National Wildlife Refuge System, to receive the new ***America the Beautiful Interagency Volunteer Pass***. Anthony Leger, Chief of Refuges for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 5, presented Carl with the pass on April 14 at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Northeast Region Friends Conference held in Philadelphia, PA in recognition of accumulating 500 volunteer hours at the refuge since January 1, 2007. The Volunteer Pass is one of four new passes established under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act passed by congress in December 2004.

Carl started volunteering at the Refuge in 1996 and has accrued over 6,000 hours. A member of the New York Blue Bird Society, Carl organizes and trains other volunteers to help monitor and maintain approximately 80 blue bird nest boxes throughout the summer. He also assists in habitat management projects, carpentry, building maintenance and many other areas. Carl is one of the founding members and current president of the Friends of Iroquois NWR, Inc., a non-profit organization that works to support wildlife conservation and



programs on Iroquois NWR. To learn more about how to earn an America the Beautiful Volunteer Pass, click [here](#).



Students from Crenshaw High School in Los Angeles, CA pitch in at the Santa Monica National Recreation Area.

Thank you!

Thanks to our contributors for this edition of "In Touch With Take Pride." Please keep sending us articles and photos at TakePride@ios.doi.gov for future newsletter editions or for publication on our website.

Correction

In the May 2007 edition of the newsletter we mistakenly referred to the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal as a National Historic Park. It should technically be titled a "National Historical Park".



The Bureau of Reclamation's Commissioner Robert Johnson visits the Take Pride in America booth at a recent Association of California Water Agencies conference in Anaheim, California. The conference drew more than 2,000 local water officials as well as state and federal water leaders.