Peach Basket Classic
Photos by Joe Saxon

Top: Andrew Dankel-Ibáñez takes a shot while Jon Renholds blocks out an opponent. The Corps’ team finished second at the Walla Walla Peach Basket Classic Corporate Challenge. Below, left: Jon Renholds pops a jumper. Middle: Jeff Lyon plays defense. Right: Jordan Fink pulls up for a shot while avoiding defenders. Above: A slam dunk contestant goes “skywalking” enroute to a dunk.

One normally would not associate T-shirts with sustainability, but leave it to LaRhonda McCauley and the Association of Corps Employees (ACE) committee to make that connection.

The ACE committee provides morale, welfare and recreational support to Corps employees. The District’s latest shirts are 50 percent recycled plastic bottles and 50 percent organic cotton.

“Every year we try and come up with a T-shirt for the annual Corps picnic,” McCauley said. “This year’s design contest winner was Michael Schaffer.”

His back-of-shirt design featured the District’s dams and rivers.

“We already had the back of the shirt designed when I noticed the Army’s ‘Go Green’ logo on a story in the Intercom,” McCauley said. “I thought that would be really nice to have on the shirt, especially if we could get recycled shirts. We contacted the company, and they had environmentally friendly, sustainable T-shirts.”

“When I found those shirts were available, I proposed to our ACE committee that they use the ‘Go Green’ on the front and Michael’s design on the back. The committee unanimously approved it,” McCauley said.

According to the shirt’s label, the 4.8 ounce shirt consists of 50 percent ringspun pre-shrunk organic cotton, and 50 percent post-consumer P.E.T. recycled polyester.

“This T-shirt feels incredible and is made of 50 percent recycled water bottles, McCauley noted. “It’s environmentally friendly AND good looking! How cool is that!”

In addition to having sustainable T-shirts, the ACE picnic committee took another significant step to improve sustainability efforts in the District. Instead of buying cases and cases of plastic water bottles and putting all those bottles in a local landfill when empty, the committee asked all attendees to bring their own non-disposable water bottles instead.

A water “buffalo” was made available for all the picnickers to re-fill their personal water bottles. Ruthann Haider, chairperson of the NWW Sustainability Committee was excited about this grassroots effort to reduce landfill material.

“LaRhonda is our poster child for sustainability right now,” Haider said. She clearly took some extra time to think of significant ways to recycle or reduce waste material related to the annual picnic. Simple efforts like this help our District’s efforts to become greener and focus on waste reduction.”

ACE Committee goes the Sustainability route with Corps T-shirts

ACE is:
Lonnie Croft
Mitsi Fukuhara-Poloa
Ronetta Holland
Jennifer Rand
Michael Schaffer
Ken Koebberling
LaRhonda McCauley
Al Sutlick (Retired)

Above: Back of the new Walla Walla District T-shirt was designed by Michael Schaffer. Left: LaRhonda McCauley displays the front of the District T-shirt.
Welcome Lt. Gen. Bostick Corps Commander

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Commander Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick visited the Walla Walla District on June 3. While here, he viewed facilities and met with workers at Dworshak and Ice Harbor dams.

A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, he also holds a masters degree in both civil engineering and mechanical engineering from Stanford University. He is a licensed professional engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

As the USACE Commanding General, he is responsible for more than 37,000 Civilian employees and 600 military personnel who provide project management and construction support to 250 Army and Air Force installations in more than 100 countries around the world.

Around the District

The Walla Walla District recognized employee excellence at the annual Corps Day town hall.

Wendell Greenwald (pictured left) joined the Gallery of Distinguished Civilian Employees. His photo will join the others in the District Headquarters building hallway outside the Castle Room.

Pictured left to right: New Employee of the Year Award Winner Procurement Systems Support Analyst Chris Koch. Outstanding Achievement Award Winner (GS10/above) Project Engineer Ryan Bliss. Support Employee of the Year Realty Assistant Nancy Herres. Third Quarter Award Winner Electrical Engineer Brian Head. PMBP Proponent Shawn Nelson, Kevin Crum, and Martin Ahmann.

Not pictured: Outstanding Achievement Award Winner (GS9/ below) Jim Wade, Outstanding Achievement (T/C) James Harris. Engineering Excellence Award Winner Electrical Engineer Stuart Gregory.

Leadership Development Program

Congratulations 2013 Graduates

Members of the Walla Walla District’s 2013 Leadership Development class are all smiles as they prepare to graduate.

Hydraulic Engineer
Curtis Bean
District Headquarters

Contract Specialist
Cam Allen
District Headquarters

Archeologist
Scott Hall
District Headquarters

Mechanical Engineer
David Salgado
District Headquarters

Fishery Biologist
Dean Holcomb
District Headquarters

Chief of Operations
Bill Gerkebach
McNary Lock and Dam, Umatilla, Ore.

Fishery Biologist
Greg Moody
District Headquarters

Structural Engineer
Jon Lomeland
District Headquarters

Support Services Specialist
Stephanie Renshaw
District Headquarters

Hydraulic Engineer
Brandon Hobbs
Boise Outreach Office

Employees of the Quarter Fiscal Year 2013

Third Quarter

Sandy Shelin (far left) Environmental Resource Specialist
Alex Almeida (left) Power Plant Electrician
Lower Monumental Lock and Dam

Corps Day award winners

The Walla Walla District recognized employee excellence at the annual Corps Day town hall.

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Pictured left to right: New Employee of the Year Award Winner Procurement Systems Support Analyst Chris Koch. Outstanding Achievement Award Winner (GS10/above) Project Engineer Ryan Bliss. Support Employee of the Year Realty Assistant Nancy Herres. Third Quarter Award Winner Electrical Engineer Brian Head. PMBP Proponent Shawn Nelson, Kevin Crum, and Martin Ahmann.

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