



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

S: 5 April 2002

CECW-ON

21 FEB 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS  
AND DISTRICT COMMANDS

SUBJECT: Chief of Engineers 2002 Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Interpretive  
Excellence (Interpreter of the Year)

1. Reference Engineer Pamphlet 1130-2-434 (FS), Hiram M. Chittenden Award Fact Sheet (Enclosure 1).
2. I am pleased to request nominations for the 2002 Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Interpretive Excellence. Nomination criteria and submittal information are at Enclosures 2 and 3, respectively. Divisions should submit their nominations to Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CECW-ON, not later than 5 April 2002.
3. This will be the eighth year that the Corps will acknowledge an individual who has done exceptional work in the interpretive services area. I strongly encourage all divisions to submit a nomination.
4. Questions about the award may be directed to Mr. Steve Austin, (202) 761-1940.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

ROBERT H. GRIFFIN  
Major General, USA  
Director of Civil Works

3 Encls

Please ensure you nominate  
candidates - your team members  
deserve it!



US Army Corps  
of Engineers

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EP 1130-2-434 (FS)  
September 1993

# Hiram M. Chittenden Award

## F A C T S H E E T



INTERPRETIVE SERVICES AND OUTREACH PROGRAM (ISOP)

CECW-ON

30 March 1994

Errata Sheet

No. 1

INTERPRETIVE SERVICES AND OUTREACH PROGRAM (ISOP)

Hiram M. Chittenden Award  
Fact Sheet

EP 1130-2-434 (FS)

30 September 1993

Second paragraph, second line: Delete words "natural resources management". Sentence should read, "The Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Excellence in Interpretation will recognize outstanding efforts in interpretation by members of the Corps of Engineers team."

THE HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN AWARD  
FOR EXCELLENCE IN INTERPRETATION  
FACT SHEET

"For one man to be a good army officer, a top-drawer engineer, and a competent historian concurrently is an unusual phenomenon, and indeed Hiram Martin Chittenden was a man of unusual and considerable talents."

-- Richard Bartlett, (1964)

Interpretation is a valuable management tool and important public service that Corps of Engineers Park Rangers and Managers provide. Recognition of excellence in any field is a valuable management tool to promote organizational objectives, improve employee morale, and emphasize the importance of the recognized efforts of the individual to the mission of the organization. The Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Excellence in Interpretation will recognize outstanding efforts in interpretation by members of the Corps of Engineers natural resources management team.

The award is named for Hiram M. Chittenden (1858-1917), a graduate of West Point, and officer of the Corps of Engineers. As an engineer he served on the Missouri River Commission, built the tourist roads in Yellowstone National Park, surveyed the boundaries of Yosemite and Mount Rainier National Parks, and worked to protect these National Parks from vandalism and corporate encroachment for future generations. He served in the Spanish-American War, studied flood control needs in Pennsylvania and Ohio, irrigation potential for western states, and later, as District Engineer of Seattle, planned the Lake Washington Canal.

Hiram Chittenden was an important historian of the American West. He wrote *The Yellowstone National Park*, *History of Early Steamboat Navigation on the Missouri River*, *Life and Letters of Father Pierre-Jean De Smet, S.J., 1801-1873*, and *The American Fur Trade of the West*. He contributed articles to many national magazines and newspapers.

His interpretation of the importance and grandeur of Yellowstone was important in the development of the National Park ideal in the decades just prior to the formation of the National Park Service. He also contributed greatly to the understanding of the exploration of the American West. Hiram Martin Chittenden was a man of unusual and remarkable talents.



"The greatest service which official authority can render to posterity is to maintain and transmit this possession as it came from the hand of Nature."

-- Hiram Martin Chittenden

HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN AWARD FOR INTERPRETIVE EXCELLENCE  
(INTERPRETER OF THE YEAR)

**NOMINATION CRITERIA**

The Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Interpretive Excellence (Interpreter of the Year) is an annual recognition for outstanding contributions to interpretation and/or environmental education by a U. S. Army Corps of Engineers employee. An "interpreter" may be a park ranger, park manager, engineer, safety officer, public affairs officer, wildlife technician, forester, human resources specialist, or others who "interpret" the special resource themes of the Corps.

Nominations for the Hiram M. Chittenden Award are based upon an individual's performance **in the preceding calendar year** in the areas listed below. If the selection committee determines that no applicant has met the award criteria, then no award will be given this year.

a. Creativity and Originality. The nomination must include a concise summary of the nominee's interpretive and/or environmental education efforts. The nomination should emphasize how the nominee's work showed innovation in technique, delivery, materials, or use of resources to provide interpretive services effectively to an audience. The nomination should describe how the interpretive work performed is an example of interpretation as an art that uses many forms. It should also describe how the efforts and accomplishments of the nominee were implemented and what management objectives were met.

b. Made a Positive Experience for Visitors. The nomination should document how the nominee's work exemplified the principles of interpretation in reaching the whole person, was provocative, entertaining, informative, and related to the experience of the audience. It should provide evidence that the work and/or behavior of the nominee contributed to a positive change in attitude of the target audience, and promoted voluntary stewardship of natural, cultural, or created resources. If appropriate, the nomination should indicate how the nominee's work successfully reached a non-traditional audience such as persons with disabilities, non-English speaking, multi cultural, or inner city audiences.

c. Enhancement of the Public's Understanding of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Site. The nomination should describe how the interpretive services presented by the nominee told the Corps story, interpreted the history or missions of the Corps, the functions of the Corps site, or a management issue of concern to the Corps. If applicable, the nomination should indicate any outreach efforts related to the interpretive and/or environmental education work.

HIRAM M. CHITTENDEN AWARD FOR INTERPRETIVE EXCELLENCE  
(INTERPRETER OF THE YEAR)

AWARD SUBMITTAL INFORMATION

The Hiram M. Chittenden Award for Interpretive Excellence (Interpreter of the Year) is presented annually to an employee of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers in recognition of personal excellence in interpretation. The award is to recognize Corps employees at the district office level and in the field who perform interpretive duties.

**POLICY**

a. The Chief of Engineers presents this award. The Chief, Operations Division, Directorate of Civil Works, exercises general staff supervision over the award program and is responsible for its administration.

b. The MSC and district commanders will ensure that individuals nominated are appropriately recognized within their respective commands, and that adequate publicity is given to this recognition.

**NOMINATION CRITERIA.**

The MSC commanders will establish appropriate procedures to review nominations and may submit a nomination for the award to represent the MSC. The MSC commanders will forward their nominations to HQUSACE, ATTN: CECW-ON, Washington, D.C. 20314-1000, not later than 1 April each year, for the **preceding calendar year only. This year's nomination packages should reflect only those accomplishments made in 2001.**

**NOMINATION FORMAT.** All nominations should be on standard 8 ½ X 11" pages, preferably contained in a three ring binder. Custom printing and fancy bindings should be avoided. A nomination will consist of:

- a. A single sheet containing:
  - (1) Name of nominee
  - (2) Position title, series and grade
  - (3) Organization and location
  - (4) Years of federal service
  
- b. DA Form 1256

c. Narrative Justification. Should not exceed three single sided pages and must relate to the criteria found in enclosure 2 and address:

- (1) Achievements
- (2) Scope of importance of mission, function, or activity affected
- (3) Extent to which the nominee's performance has exceeded job responsibilities
- (4) Results achieved including benefits to the Nation and impacts on the organization. If monetary benefits result, specific documented dollar amount should be stated.

*Note: The nomination package should reflect only those accomplishments made in 2001.*

d. Graphics. Nominations may also have no more than six additional single sided pages of publications. Newspaper clippings, or other documentation that are appropriate and significantly contribute to the understanding of the accomplishments of the nominee may also be included.

e. The Chief, Operations Division (CECW-O), Directorate of Civil Works, will establish a committee to judge nominations for the award. The Committee will send its recommendation through CECW-O to the Director of Civil Works for approval.

**RECOGNITION PLAQUE.** The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Interpreter of the Year award winner will be recognized with an appropriate plaque as described below. The plaque will be presented to and will become the property of the award winner.

(The plaque will be inscribed with the name of the award winner, the individual's project office, the district name and the year of the award. The Chief of Engineer's signature will appear on the plaque.)

**AWARD PRESENTATION.** The Chief of Engineers (or his designee) will present the award to the winner at an appropriate ceremony.

**PROPONENT.** The Operations Division, Directorate of Civil Works is the proponent for this award.