

2013 NAVPLG Awards Presented at NCVS

One of the highlights of NAVPLG's meeting at the National Conference on Volunteering and Service was the presentation of awards. NAVPLG's award program raises awareness of our profession and recognizes excellence in our field.

Innovative Program Award was presented to **VolunteerLEON** of **Leon County, Florida** for their "Operation Youth Mock Deployment -- Walk a Day in a Soldier's Boots" program for area youth who have a parent deployed in Afghanistan. The event took place on Saturday, September 8, 2012. Children experienced first-hand the step-by-step deployment process including being established in platoons, team-building exercises, mock obstacle courses and a hero's welcome home.

31 children attended this free event. Each participant received military orders, a check list to complete each step of deployment and a hero pack. Leon County has no military base but partnered with Military Kids, Inc. to help them spread the word. For more information, visit [Volunteer LEON](#).



Leigh Britt (left) with Sheryl Ivey

Outstanding New Volunteer Administrator for 2013 was **Sheryl Ivey** from **Salt Lake County, Utah**. Sheryl has served as Volunteer Services Director since January 2011. During that time Sheryl has used her leadership skills, creativity and innovative approach to involve more than 22,000 volunteers contributing nearly one million hours of service, the equivalent of 426 full-time employees per year for Salt Lake County Government.

Sheryl has worked to promote volunteering through the media and frequently speaks on volunteer management. She has worked to develop volunteer programs for emergency management and helps manage 101 public county boards and commissions and more than 80 volunteer programs. Sheryl is also a new NAVPLG board member. Find out more about the [Salt Lake County, Utah volunteer program](#).

Outstanding Volunteer Administrator was awarded to **Susan Hawes**, Stewardship Coordinator for Portland Parks & Recreation – City Nature East in **Portland, Oregon**. Susan has served as Stewardship Coordinator for the Nature Center East for the last three years. She has worked with more than 10,000 volunteers at over 100 outdoor volunteer restoration events each year. Susan's nominators commented on her mentorship and coaching of volunteers and finding meaningful and well-matched opportunities for them. She makes volunteers feel comfortable and appreciated for their work.



Leigh Britt with Susan Hawes

One of Susan's accomplishments was creating the Volunteer Stewardship Program in partnership with the Johnson Creek Watershed Council to help stretch the limited resources of the Nature Center. Find out more about [Susan's program](#).

NAVPLG congratulates our three award recipients. We encourage members to nominate themselves or other deserving individuals and programs in 2014.