



FLASH!

Alaska Recreation & Park Association
Newsletter Issue No. 86
March 2002

Anchorage, Auke Bay, Barrow, Bethel, Chugiak, Cordova, Craig, Delta Junction, Dillingham, Douglas, Eagle River, Elmendorf AFB, Fairbanks, Fort Richardson, Girdwood, Homer, Hoonah, Houston, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, King Salmon, Kodiak, Naknek, Nikiski, Nome, North Pole, Palmer, Petersburg, Point Hope, Seward, Sitka, Skagway, Soldotna, Tok, Unalaska, Valdez, Wasilla, Wrangell, Yakutat

President's Message

Proud Profession

Sometimes it is a little difficult to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Especially when you have just had to deal with a dissatisfied patron or a user group representative who feels that your staff is not doing all that it could to support their activity.

In contrast, this past month provided a couple of bright spots that helped me refocus on what it is we do and what an important and positive role we play in the lives of others. Recently I was invited to participate in the opening ceremony of the Tanana Valley Special Olympics 2002 Local Winter Games. The role was a small one compared to the magnitude of the overall games. I made a few opening remarks and had the privilege of officially opening the games. Events continued at several different venues throughout the week. What struck me most about this experience was that the parents and athletes were really "pumped for the games". They had worked hard to prepare for the competition, many of which were held at our various facilities and were ready to win some ribbons.

They were proud of their efforts and appreciated the fact that we were there to acknowledge that and wish them well. The athletes' oath they recited provides some inspiration and guidance we can all put to use in our daily lives:

"Let me win!

But if I cannot win,

Let me be brave with the attempt!"

The other bright spot came through watching several hours of the Salt Lake City 2002 Winter Olympics on television. It came as no surprise that America has some of the finest sportsmen and athletes in the world and that many Alaskans are among them. It should make us all proud to know that some of them got their start and developed their talents in the programs and at the facilities that we help provide and maintain.

Keep up the great work – the benefits are endless!

CHECK OUT ARPA
on line at www.alaskarpa.org

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ARPA Conference Correction

October 2-5, 2002
Lands End Resort
Homer, Alaska

Keynote Speakers:

Emily Kimball
"Ageing Adventurer"

John McGovern
Executive Director of Northern
Suburban Special Recreation
Association in Northbrook, IL.

For additional information contact
Daryl Farrens at 235-6090 or by email at
dfarrens@kpbsd.k12.ak.us

Deadline for submitting
information for the May
FLASH
is April 20, 2002.

AQUATIC'S SECTION REPORT

Greetings from Paige at the Palmer Pool.

I had arranged to have a spokesperson from the Red Cross come to discuss with lifeguards rollout of the new training material. I had also arranged for someone to give us information on the GuardStart program geared for kids 11 to 14. The spokesperson was also going to discuss the ECC (Emergency Cardiac Care) program which includes the defibrillator and oxygen. Then the tragedy struck on September 11 and the Red Cross had to pull out because they were needed elsewhere.

Joe Miner came to discuss the Haz-Mat communication system. We video taped that presentation so if anyone would like a copy please submit to me \$5.00 to cover the copying and mailing fees and we will send you a copy.

Our Borough Manager, John Duffy presented a session on how to cope with stress in the work place.

Sarah Greene did an awesome presentation on Blood Borne Pathogens. Sarah is the Mat-Su Borough's employee Health Nurse who has a great deal of information about the different ways to protect ourselves while assisting people with their medical needs.

Then there was the CPO class that had eight people in it and Cory did a great job. His cheat sheets make all the difference in the world and turn something that can become quite complicated into something that is very user friendly.

I would like to take this time to thank all those people that helped the Mat-Su Borough pull off the three group conference. Special thanks to all the speakers that gave their time to come and share their knowledge with us. I really learned a great deal and I would like to commend those who put section sessions together and made it look like as easy as brushing their teeth.

Homer is hosting next year's conference.

What would your aquatic people be interested in having presented at the Homer conference next year?

Would anyone like to see AEA come up and conduct a certification for water aerobic instructors? AEA Instructors must take 15 continuing educational credits, every two years in order to keep current. This would be a way to get some credits and to certify others in this growing field.

Cory Willis also offered to hold another CPO class if anyone is interested.

Please get a hold of our next section President as soon as we know who it is and discuss your needs as an aquatic professional so we can get some great topics and speakers for the next conference.

Is anyone out there that is interested in becoming our next aquatic section President? Contact Marcie Robinson in Valdez and give her your input. If I don't hear from anyone please expect a call from me to try and get some input so we can plan some great speakers for next year. Thanks and have a great year.

ARPA GOES TO D.C.!

Jeff Hawley, ARPA President-Elect, Nancy Peterson, National Legislative Chair, Wendie Marriott, APRS Board Member, Bob Robertson, National CBM Chair-elect and Barnaby Dow, Sitka Parks and Recreation Director traveled to Washington DC to attend the Mid-year meeting and Legislative Forum of NRPA. The annual meeting, held at the end of February, provides an opportunity to learn about legislative issues and meet with our Congressional delegation and members of their staff.

ARPA members were fortunate to have an opportunity to personally meet with Senator Stevens to discuss the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the reauthorization of TEA-21, and the 21st Century Community Learning Center program, as well as several other legislative issues that will provide much needed funding and/or support to parks and recreation programs in Alaska. Christine Drager of Senator Murkowski's staff, and Michael Henry of Congressman Young's staff also met with the ARPA representatives to listen to issues and concerns and to share insights on potential funding sources.

The Alaska Recreation and Park Association provides funding assistance to ensure that the ARPA leadership is involved in this important National meeting each year. The President, President-elect and the Legislative Chair travel to the meeting to officially represent ARPA in the meetings with the congressional delegation and to attend the training and networking meetings with other state affiliates and the National Recreation and Park Association staff. Other members of ARPA are encouraged to attend the training and take advantage of the opportunity to get involved firsthand in the legislative process.

Up Coming Events

April 16-19,2002	Washington Recreation & Parks Association Conference	Wenatchee, WA
April 21-24, 2002	Golf Management Institute	San Diego, CA
May 8-10, 2002	Pacific Risk Management School	Seattle WA
Sept. 29 - Oct. 3, 02	Marketing & Revenue Sources Management School	???
Oct. 2 -5, 2002	ARPA Conference	Homer, AK
Nov. 10-15, 2002	Pacific Southwest Maintenance Management School	???
Feb. 25-Mar. 1, 2003	NRPA Legislative Conference & Midyear Forum	Washington, D.C.

Comprehensive Care of Ballfields

Sponsored by ARPA

April 19-21, 2002 — General Schedule

The workshop will be held at the Wedgewood Resort in Fairbanks.

We have block booked rooms at a special rate for the conference. The cost is \$59.00 per night and \$5.00 for each additional person. The rooms are very spacious and are in the same complex as the instructional sessions meeting rooms. To receive the seminar price you must give the following information when you make your reservations:

The group name: Comprehensive Care of Ballfields Meeting

The group code: CCBFM02

For reservations call 1-800-528-4916, or (907) 452-1442. Room reservations should be made by April 5, 2002, if at all possible.

The Wedgewood Resort offers a complimentary airport shuttle, and we will provide transportation from Wedgewood to all off site activities.

Schedule:

Friday, April 19

6:00 PM: Open house hosted at Craig Taylor Equipment

Saturday, April 20

8:30 AM: Check in and Registration

9:00 AM: Sessions (refreshments provided)

Noon: Lunch (provided)

1:00 PM: Sessions resume (refreshments provided)

5:00 PM: Sessions end for the day

6:30 PM: Networking dinner at The Pump House Restaurant (Pay as you go)

Sunday, April 21

8:00 AM: Breakfast (provided)

9:00 AM: Sessions resume (refreshments provided)

Noon: Sessions and workshop end

A more detailed schedule with session specifics will be available in the near future. For more information contact the Fairbanks North Star Borough Parks and Recreation Department at (907) 459-1070.

Comprehensive Care of Ballfields

Fairbanks, AK

April 20 & 21, 2002

Practical Professional Practices

Hosted by

Alaska Recreation and Parks Association - Parks Maintenance Section

and

Fairbanks North Star Borough – Parks and Recreation Department

Topics include:

- § Full-season turf care – fertilization, irrigation, high-wear areas, overseeding, topdressing, drainage, monitoring, and more...
- § Layout and Design
- § Baseball/Softball infields – maintenance and materials
- § Bleachers and site amenities – new standards
- § Maintenance equipment – basic mowers and much more, maintenance of maintenance equipment
- § User agreements and coordinating volunteer efforts, scheduling of use and maintenance

Course Information:

Cost: ARPA Member \$25.00

Non-ARPA Member \$55.00 (includes membership)

Cost includes Saturday lunch and more.

Contact: Tom Martin E-mail: mjdmr@hotmail.com

Dan Chagnon E-mail: dchagnon@co.fairbanks.ak.us

Karl Kassel E-mail: kkassel@co.fairbanks.ak.us

Phone: 907-459-1070 907-459-1072 fax

Session Times: Saturday, April 20 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 21 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Additional: Friday and Saturday evening - networking/social functions

AMERICAN PARKS AND RECREATION SOCIETY REPORT

Nancy Peterson, Jeff Hawley and Wendie Marriott recently attended the National Parks and Recreation Association's mid-year meetings in Washington D.C. As your regional representative for the American Parks and Recreation Society (APRS), I thought I would share some of the legislation that is being proposed. Present bills supported by NRPA include:

TEA-21: funds programs that support development of alternative modes of transportation that enhance recreation and protect the environment. A component of the Act allows for restoration of historic transportation facilities, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and safety and education programs;

Recreational Trails Program: provides funds to develop and maintain recreational trails for motorized and non-motorized use;

PL 107-118 Brownsfields to Parks: authorizes money to clean up sites contaminated by factories, industrial facilities, gasoline stations, oil storage facilities, and other businesses contaminated with pollution;

HR 2787 Child Care and Development Block Grants: authorizes HH&S to provide public agencies opportunities to fund child care programs for low income families and serve children with disabilities;

Various Healthy Communities Proposed Appropriations;

Various Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Proposed Legislation;

HR 863 Consequences for Juvenile Offenders Act: provides for Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants;

HS 1165 Juvenile Crime Prevention and Control Act: authorizes graduated sanctions for juvenile offenders and recreation services through a Community Prevention Grant Program;

HR 1900 Juvenile Crime Control and Delinquency Prevention Act: separates juvenile offenders from adult offenders;

HR 537 Act to Establish the National Commission on Youth Crime and School Violence: allows opportunities for experts to convene on youth crime and violence issues and make recommendations on effective delinquency prevention practices;

I have copies of these bills, many of which have additional components that may be of interest to you. Feel free to contact me if you would like me to send more explicit information.

Nancy, Jeff, and I were also able to meet personally with Senator Ted Stevens. We met with Aides through Murkowski and Young's office as well. The trip was very informative and productive. I would be more than happy to answer any specific questions that you may have.

Please feel free to call me at (907) 581-1297, Wendie Marriott, Director Parks, Culture, and Recreation Department, City of Unalaska

National Parks Service Is Back On Line

The NPS should be coming back online this week including Internet access. Thanks for your patience.

As a reminder, the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance office moved back to the NPS Regional Office last December. We now reside in the RAM Office Building in the NPS Alaska Regional Office on the second floor, east side rooms 240-243. The building is located Our mailing address at 2525 Gambell Street, Anchorage, AK 99503-2892 remains the same. Please delete any other addresses. between the Fireweed Theaters and Sears Mall one block west of the Seward Highway).

The week of December 3 is the Alaska NPS Discovery North Conference, so don't expect us at our desks until the following week.

Our new phone numbers (Area Code 907) will be effective November 30 with the possible exceptions of Emily's, Survey Tech's, and the FAX:

Jack Mosby	257-2650	Kevin Keeler	257-2654
Cassie Thomas	257-2644	Emily Schrooten	257-2598
Survey Tech	257-2599	FAX	257-2664

Invest in the future and yourself

NRPA MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- A voice on Capitol Hill
- Parks & Recreation magazine
- Directory: NRPA newsletter
- A branch or section newsletter specific to your needs
- Discounts on Association publications, seminars, grants, educational seminars including the National Congress
- Insurance programs and many more!

Your State Association and The National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) are introducing the "Partnership Program" to new NRPA members.

Join today as a new NRPA professional member and pay the low rate of \$55.00 for your first year of membership.

For a special application and additional information, contact your state association office or NRPA at 1-800-626-6772.

We'll help you with the challenges of the future. Partner with us today!

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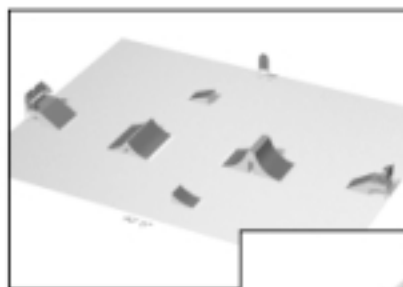
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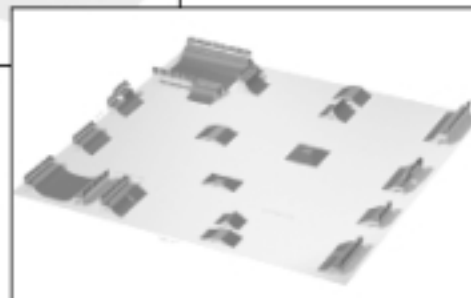
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The Flash Pan!

The **deadline** for submission of articles will be **April 20, 2002**.

Please submit your information on disk or email in text format (.txt), or Microsoft Word for windows 2000 or earlier. Graphic are preferred in JPEG or TIFF formats. Submit your items by email as an attachment and as part of the message (in case your program encodes attachments). You can submit articles in pencil, pen, magic marker, crayon, or on napkins (please use a clean napkins!).

The Flashman has done a great disservice to his Flashfans. The FLASH # 85 was riddled with errors. Happy New Years 2000 instead of 2002!! The wrong dates were published for the Homer Conference. My apologies to the loyal readers of the FLASH and the Flashman will strive to do better in the future.

If you are going through hell, keep going.- Winston Churchill

Can you name three consecutive days without using the words Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, or Sunday?

“The brain is a wonderful organ. It starts working the moment you get up in the morning and does not stop until you get into the office.” - Robert Frost

FLASHFANS can reach the **FLASHMAN** at: 907-428-6896 voice, 907-248-1323 fax
PO Box 221166 waltonjr@gci.net
Anchorage, Alaska 99522

Please make note of the address change

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