



217 Second Street, Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801



# FLASH!

Alaska Recreation & Park Association  
Newsletter Issue No.  
March 2003

Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Bettles, Big Lake, Coldfoot, Copper Center, Cordova, Craig, Denali Park, Dillingham, Douglas, Eagle River, Fairbanks, Girdwood, Glenallen, Gustavus, Homer, Hoonah, Houston, Indian, Juneau, Kenai, King Salmon, Kodiak, Nikiski, North Pole, Palmer, Petersburg, Seward, Skagway, Soldotna, Tok, Valdez, Wasilla, Unalaska, Yakutat

## President's Message

Since the last FLASH was sent out much has happened within ARPA. Offering our membership education and training possibilities is our primary function. The sections within ARPA have been busy working on some exciting education and training opportunities for its members. The Wildlands Section is offering a spring Research Rendezvous. The newly energized Aquatic Section is trying to plan a workshop before the annual conference as well as some exciting aquatic sessions during the annual conference. The Maintenance Section just helped sponsor a workshop on tree maintenance and disease control while the Therapeutic and Recreation Programs Sections have been busy developing their sessions for the ARPA Annual Conference in October. ARPA will once again sponsor the Playground Safety Certification course in conjunction with NRPA. The course will be held on April 28-29 with the exam on April 30 at the Anchorage Hilton Hotel. The annual Pacific Northwest Regional Leadership Summit is scheduled for May 21-23 in LaConner Washington and all Board members are encouraged to try and attend.

The Board of Directors and Section Chairs will be hosting a goal and priorities workshop for ARPA April 26, 2003. There will be a small questionnaire going out to members to help us decide our priorities and goals. You should be receiving the questionnaire in early March. Please take a few moments and fill it out and send it back to me by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Your input will help us plan our board workshop to better address membership needs.

Finally, ARPA has been feeling some growing pains. We have added new sections, membership has risen, and education and training opportunities are being offered more frequently by more sections than ever before. This means the workload on the board and section

chairs has increased. Everyone is being asked to do more with less and that means everyone's time is at a premium. The same is true within ARPA. As we continue to grow, the work that is required to process and keep track of memberships, get pertinent information out in a timely manner, pay bills and track the financial revenues and expenditures of the sections and ARPA has increased significantly. It is incumbent on all of us to help these Board volunteers by getting proper information to them on time, updating your phone and email addresses and doing whatever you can to make their job easier. During our Board workshop we will be discussing our basic services and how to better our system of delivering those services. Please be thinking of ways we can better serve our association as well as how the association can better serve you. Just remember ...

### "That Old Nobody Story"

This is a story about four people, named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done, and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did. Somebody got angry about this, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done. It happens all the time. *Let's have Everybody, who is Anybody or Somebody make sure Nobody is forgotten in our Association.*

-Jeff Hawley, Cordova

The deadline for submission of articles for the next Flash is June 11, 2003

Check the web-site regularly for new information [www.alaskarpa.org](http://www.alaskarpa.org)



Erin Go Bragh means "Ireland Forever"



St. Patrick's Day Pinch

School children started this little tradition. They pinch classmates who don't wear green on this holiday. Wearing green is strictly a U.S. custom, as the color green is not popular in Ireland. Green is connected to the old green flag and a time when Ireland was not free. Green is also a color connected with hope and nature.



Leprechauns

Leprechauns are little make-believe fairies from Ireland. They are the little old men who are shoemakers for the fairies. They usually stand about 2 feet tall. Treasure hunters can often track down a leprechaun by the sound of his shoemaker's hammer. The legend is that if you catch one you can force him to tell you where he hides his gold.

FLASH PAN

# Alaska Recreation & Park Association

## 2003 Board of Directors/Chairs

### Board of Directors

President  
**Jeff P. Hawley**  
 Parks and Recreation Director  
 City of Cordova  
 (907) 424-7282 wk.  
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Treasurer  
**Nancy Peterson**  
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Secretary  
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 FNSB Recreation Services Manager  
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Board Members At-Large  
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 Parks and Recreation Director  
 City/Borough of Juneau  
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Board Member At-Large  
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 Recreation Director  
 Municipality of Anchorage  
 (907) 343-4296 wk  
 (907) 278-6595  
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Board Member At-Large  
**Karen Kester**  
 Recreation Superintendent  
 North Kenai Rec. Svcs. Area  
 (907) 776-8800 wk  
 (907) 776-5122  
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Lay Person/Citizen Board Chair  
**Steve Beardsley**  
 Municipality of Anchorage  
 Parks and Recreation Commissioner  
 Anchorage, Alaska 99515  
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### Section Chairs

Wildlands Section  
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 BLM Recreation Director  
 907) 271-5508 wk  
 (907) 271-5479  
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**Recreation Program Section**  
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 Parks and Recreation Director  
 City of Petersburg  
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**Aquatics Section**  
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 Mat-Su Borough Pool Manager  
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**Therapeutic Recreation Section**  
 Danielle Dittmer CTRS  
 Therapeutic Recreation Coordinator  
 Challenge Alaska  
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**Park Maintenance Section**  
 Thomas Martin  
 FNSB Parks Caretaker  
 (907) 459-1078 wk  
[mjdmr@hotmail.com](mailto:mjdmr@hotmail.com)

### Committee Chairs

**Education and Training Co-Chairs**  
 Kim Kiefer

Karin Sturdy  
 (907) 224-4053 wk  
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**Membership**  
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**Nominations**  
 Jeff Hawley

**Publications – FLASH**  
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**Legislative - State**  
 Kim Kiefer

**Constitution and By-Laws**  
 Karl Kassel  
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**Legislative – National**  
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**Historical**  
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**Benefits & Certification Prof. Develop.**  
 Wendie Marriott  
 (907) 581-2989  
[wendiem@ci.unalaska.ak.us](mailto:wendiem@ci.unalaska.ak.us)

**Scholarships Co-Chairs**  
 Earl Wiese

**Web-Site**  
 Ryan McFarland

## Professional Development Scholarships available for ARPA members!

Did you know, that as an ARPA member you are eligible for a scholarship to attend an education or training program of your choice? That's right, in 2003, ARPA has set aside more than \$4,000 (from the silent auction revenue at our annual conference and other fundraising events), for professional development scholarships for its members! Grants to attend state, regional or national schools, conferences, institutes or workshops. You may apply for a grant up to \$500 for the purpose of attending a professional education program as described, which will contribute to your professional development.

The maximum amount per individual is \$500, so that means at least 8 ARPA members could have an opportunity to expand their knowledge and improve the services they deliver to their community or agency in 2003! Is there a conference, workshop or school that you've wanted to attend but just don't have all the resources to make it happen? Apply for an ARPA scholarship and register this year! See the information below for all the details and fill out your scholarship application now!!!

### **GRANT SELECTION:**

The ARPA Professional Development Grant Selection Committee will be made up of members of the Education and Training Committee. They will select recipient(s) for grants 3 times annually and will initiate payment to the appropriate source. ( Payment may be made directly to the conference/workshop or may be reimbursed to the individual with appropriate documentation.)

### **CRITERIA:**

1. All applicants (including students) must be a current ARPA member and have been a member at least one year at the time of application.
2. Applicants must use the attached Application form or submit a letter of application indicating:
  - a. Commitment to writing an article for the FLASH upon completion of the seminar
  - b. Training program to be attended
  - c. Date and Location of Training
  - d. Total Cost (Itemized List)
  - e. Amount of Funding requested
  - f. Benefit to you and your community/agency
  - g. Letter of Recommendation from Advisor/Professor (student only)

### **TO APPLY:**

Applications shall be submitted to the Scholarship Grant Committee , c/o ARPA, P.O. Box 102664, Anchorage, AK 99510-2664. Applications will be reviewed by the ARPA Scholarship Grant Committee, with an announcement of grant recipients in the FLASH.

### **APPLICATION DEADLINE:**

**Application Deadlines are April 1, August 1 and December 1. (annually)**

### **For information or application form, contact:**

**Nancy Peterson, 835-2531 / [npeterson@ci.valdez.ak.us](mailto:npeterson@ci.valdez.ak.us)**  
**Karin Sturdy, 224-4053 / [ksturdy@cityofseward.net](mailto:ksturdy@cityofseward.net)**  
**Earl Wiese, [wiese@gci.net](mailto:wiese@gci.net)**

The Scholarship Committee will be reviewing the scholarship program during the next 6 months and may be proposing some changes to the scholarship program at the Annual Conference in Anchorage in October.

## SECTION V Community Commitment to Parks and Recreation Resources

16. Does your agency have dedicated staff to oversee the quality community sports program?
17. What capital improvements have been made to your community sport facilities during the past five years?
18. What sport facilities are in your master plan for the next five years?
19. Does your community provide adequate resources to maintain quality sport facilities and ensure safe environments for sport play?
20. Is funding for annual staff and volunteer training provided for in your budget? If not, how do you cover the expense of training and education?

## SECTION VI Innovations for Community Involvement

21. How do you engage other public, private and non-profit organizations in providing quality sports in your community?
22. What are the community/school relations for providing sport opportunities in your community?
23. How do you manage diverse sport agendas in your community to achieve a comprehensive commitment to quality sports for all?

## SECTION VII Scope of Programming

24. Please provide a summary of the number of sport programs provided directly and indirectly by your agency with participation levels.
25. Please provide a summary of program opportunities for youth, teenagers, adults and older adults.
26. Describe your commitment to offer non-league sport opportunities? (For example, supervised free play/ open gym)

## Summary

Finally, please describe why your community is unique among all others in your state to be recognized as the Sports Illustrated 50th Anniversary Sportstown?



**DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GAIN NATIONAL VISIBILITY!**

Participating in the Sports Illustrated 50th ANNIVERSARY SPORTSTOWN PROGRAM will bring recognition to your community and gain visibility for parks and recreation.

**Check out these benefits:**

- Up to 10 finalist communities will be designated in each state and one community will be selected as the 50th Anniversary Sportstown
- Each Sportstown winner will receive
  - Coverage in an issue of Sports Illustrated
  - A cash stipend for a sports-related project
  - Special recognition in a local ceremony

## Editors Comment



The March 2003 issue of the FLASH is from all of you who took the time, in your busy lives, and contributed. ARPA has contracted with The Alaska Municipal League to produce the FLASH.

This is a change which will hopefully lead to a consistent and timely newsletter. As you probably know, the FLASH is a Quarterly newsletter. Future deadlines for Flash content will be:

**June 11, 2003, August 6, 2003, December 3, 2003.**

I am requesting feedback to let us know how you feel about the FLASH. Any comments are welcome. What do you like? Dislike? What changes would you like to see? My email is Dave\_Lewis@ci.juneau.ak.us. I want to encourage all members to participate in the FLASH. Not only does it make the editors job easier, it will generate a more informative newsletter. Good Job everyone.

The Alaska Recreation and Park Association (ARPA) was formed on October 29, 1975 at the Alaska Municipal League conference in Anchorage. Membership is open to professionals, lay people, students, organizations and businesses wishing to support the goals and activities of the Alaska Recreation and Park Association.



## PURPOSE OF ARPA

- Promote and improve park and recreation services in Alaska.
- Develop and maintain high standards of professional training, qualifications and ethics.
- Provide and promote training programs for park and leisure professionals and volunteers.
- Stimulate closer cooperation and coordination between the various agencies (private, commercial, public, military, educational and industrial) engaged in park and recreational services.
- Encourage study and research on matters of professional interest.
- Provide an organization through which information on statewide park and recreation activities can be channeled.
- Ensure that park and recreation issues are given high priority in local, state and federal decision making.

## SPECIAL INTEREST SECTIONS

ARPA members who wish to focus their involvement are eligible to belong to one or more Special Interest Sections. One Special Interest Section is allowed free with membership. Additional affiliations add \$5.00 each.

**THERAPEUTIC & AGING RECREATION SECTION** – To promote, educate and share resources on providing opportunities for the disabled and senior populations.

**WILDLANDS SECTION** – To provide and promote appropriate wildland recreation opportunities on public and private wildlands in Alaska.

**AQUATICS SECTION** – To provide public awareness of water safety through the development and promotion of performance standards for aquatic professionals and to provide opportunities for quality training and instruction in facility and risk management, water safety techniques and program development.

**YOUTH SERVICES SECTION** – To provide a network, services and resources for the betterment of youth in Alaska

**PARK MAINTENANCE SECTION** – To develop, improve and disseminate park maintenance standards applicable to facilities and landscapes in a northern environment, and to encourage professional excellence in the field.

**BOARDS AND COMMISSION SECTION** – To enhance communication between board/commission members and professionals in the field of Parks and Recreation, and to coordinate training opportunities for board members throughout Alaska.



## Greetings Aquatics Section!

My name is Paige from the Mat-Su Borough Community Development Division. I am the manager at the Palmer Pool as well as the President of the Aquatic Section. Recently I was contacted by Dave Lewis who works for Juneau Parks and Recreation and has been asked to help out with the FLASH. Dave called me because he was reading one of the recent board meeting minutes in which I made a statement to the effect that I felt the aquatic section was “rapidly crumbling” and I wasn’t sure what to do about it. Dave suggested that I elaborate on that statement for the FLASH and give my feelings about my statement.

I do realize as President of this section I do have a responsibility to keep the membership abreast of things that are happening in the section, however, since not much has been happening, I haven’t been reporting much. The membership numbers for aquatics has been dropping off in recent years from over 20 in 1999 to less than 15 in 2003. At times I feel as if I am the only one on this lonely island and I know that can’t be true but many times and often than not that is how I feel. Managing a swimming pool, keeping abreast of all that entails, as well as keeping the staff current with their certifications seems to be a full time job; as it is not to mention checking in with the rest of the state and trying to figure out what the needs of the aquatic section are. I have written in the FLASH before asking for anyone out there to contact me with concerns or ideas for training only to never receive a response and then to be caught up in my own work and ending up dropping any kind of training ball I had picked up.

WELL NO MORE! Things just have to change! I made the statement that I believed the aquatic section was crumbling because many of my old contacts have moved on and I am unsure who is out there, where they exactly are and how the aquatic section can help them. My old mentors Ron Koch, Pam Couvillan and Tom Rowinski are gone and I am unsure as to whom else to seek out. We have so many swimming pools in this state and why are not all these managers and directors signed up with ARPA? Why are these people unable to network? Is it that we are so busy in our day to day routines at the pools that we simple do not have the time? During the last ARPA conference in Homer in October 2002 I met Jason Avery from the Fairbanks Parks and Recreation Department. Jason put together a survey that I intend to send out to all the

swimming pools in the state of Alaska asking them to fill it out and send it back in the self addressed stamped envelope by the end of March. I am asking each and every person that is involved in aquatics in any way to give me your thoughts and ideas so we in the aquatic section can offer you the best section courses and training ever to make your job better and hopefully easier.

Anchorage is this years host for ARPA and I would like to have a big showing of aquatic people there so we can get to know each other, do some networking, offer some great opportunities for training and then take this new information back to our communities. Alaska is such a large place and I often feel isolated, the questions I often ask myself are what are other managers doing with their filtration or in-services, how to deal with a dwindling budget but increase our services to our community? How do other managers keep their Water Safety Instructors from burn-out? How do other managers find people that are qualified, certified and willing to work nights and week-ends?

What kinds of certifications can we offer that would entice you to come and participate? What kind of presentations can we bring up to Alaska that would commit your company to send one of its employees? These are the questions that I really need some answers to and I am hoping, no imploring that you respond right away. How many of you in aquatics knew that the Alaska Club brings up an AEA trainer every two years to provide CEC’s to instructors so they can keep their certificate current? On February 22 and 23 Aquatic Exercise Association course was conducted at the Alaska Club in Anchorage so professionals that currently are interested in becoming a certified Aquatic Exercise Instructor could obtain that certificate. On Saturday there was an Instructor skills certification and Sunday we learned more on deep water exercise and aquatic kickboxing. It was a fantastic weekend. There were more than thirty participants from all over the state and I spoke with many who simple were not interested to find out what other people around the state are doing and how they are doing it. I was disheartened to hear that many of us are so caught up in our own thing that we simple do not have time to seek out more or new information from others in our field. I want to change that... there must be a way for aquatic people to check in with others to find what works in our classes and what doesn’t work. Whether it is in water

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## Sports Illustrated 50th Anniversary Sportstown Application



In conjunction with the National Recreation and Park Association

The Sportstown Application must be postmarked no later than May 1, 2003.

Applications must be sent (single spaced) to: Sportstown, NRPA, 22377

Belmont Ridge Road, Ashburn, VA 20148, or e-mailed to [programs@nrpa.org](mailto:programs@nrpa.org). All inquiries regarding this application should be forwarded by e-mail to [programs@nrpa.org](mailto:programs@nrpa.org).

**Please note**, all video and printed materials forwarded with this application form are welcomed, but not required. Materials submitted with the application will not be returned.

Name of Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Application Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Fax/Website: \_\_\_\_\_

NRPA Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Population served by agency: \_\_\_\_\_

### General Overview

What role does the park and recreation department have in the execution of community sport programming?

Please describe

how your agency provides, administers, collaborates or facilitates quality sports in your community.

#### SECTION I Philosophy

1. What is your community philosophy to address issues of inclusion and lifelong sport participation?
2. What is your philosophy regarding the balance between competitive and recreational sport opportunities?
3. What are your top three priorities for improving the quality of sports in your community?

#### SECTION II Policies and Procedures

4. What are your standards of conduct for parents, coaches and participants?
5. What procedures are in place to promote participation and inclusion for your community sport programs?
6. What policies are in place for independent programs to access and safely utilize public facilities?  
(For example—do you require insurance certificates, birth certificates, background checks, etc.)
7. What requirements exist for individuals or groups to volunteer in your community sport programs?
8. What are your community sport safety policies?

#### SECTION III Education and Training

9. What are your policies and practices regarding volunteer and coaches training?
10. What education and training strategies do you use to provide parent education?
11. What minimum standards for training do you use for officials in your sport programs?
12. What level of commitment does your community have to proper skill development for youth in sport?  
(For example, are there opportunities to learn skills before competing?)

#### SECTION IV Youth Development

13. Beyond sport skills, what do your sport programs teach young people?
14. How does your community embrace the “everyone plays, everyone wins” approach to youth sports?
15. How do sports in your community create unity, spirit and understanding among all?

# Exciting National News

## NRPA and *Sports Illustrated* to Celebrate Community Sports By Selecting Top “Sportstown” in Each State

### Effort Is Part of SI’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

(Ashburn, Va.) The National Recreation and Park Association is teaming with *Sports Illustrated* to heighten awareness of the importance of parks, recreation and leisure by honoring sports programs and facilities across the country. Beginning in July, and continuing weekly through July of 2004, a *Sports Illustrated* Sportstown will be recognized in each of the 50 states, ultimately identifying the best sports communities in America.

Through a formal application process, the NRPA and SI will choose one Sportstown in each state based on a variety of criteria that demonstrates a community’s commitment to facilitating and enhancing quality sports. Communities will be judged in the following categories: philosophy, policy/procedures, education and training strategies, youth development strategies, community commitment to parks and recreation resources, innovations for community development, and scope of programming.

The effort is part of SI’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary program, the most ambitious initiative in the history of the magazine, which turns 50 in 2004. In the context of sports being an enormous force for good and a major catalyst in giving Americans a sense of community, *America’s Sports Illustrated: 50 Years, 50 States, 50 Sports* will be a wide-ranging, year-long celebration of sports. The Sportstown recognition will be one of the major elements of a community outreach program designed to enhance the quality of sports in America’s communities. Sportstown recipients will be feted in a special ceremony, will receive a cash grant and featured in the magazine.

“I’m excited that America is raising a generation who takes it as a matter of course that there is going to be a team available for them to play with, a coach to teach them new skills, and a place to play,” said David O. Lose, FASLA, chair of the NRPA Board of Trustees. “Quality sports programs help communities stay healthy, bring people together, and stimulate local economy. This celebration is recognizing the efforts of community volunteers, players and fans nationwide.”

There are other opportunities for communities to participate in celebrating SI’s 50<sup>th</sup>:

- Communities are encouraged to celebrate July is Recreation & Park Month to launch this national partnership to promote quality community sports through parks and recreation.
- NRPA has developed a July is Recreation & Park Month booklet that includes programming and marketing tips for communities to use.
- You can get recognition for your community by submitting your best photographs to NRPA for possible use in one of our public service advertisements promoting parks and recreation that will appear in *Sports Illustrated* and used in a national sports tour.
- NRPA has developed an NRPA Sports Network to provide programmers and the communities they serve with monthly updates, programming ideas and special offers.

Take action today and join this landmark celebration by joining the online NRPA Sports Network at [www.nrpa.org](http://www.nrpa.org), or to download a *Sports Illustrated* Sportstown application. For more information, contact [programs@nrpa.org](mailto:programs@nrpa.org).

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aerobics or teaching Red Cross swimming lessons or Life-guard training or Water Safety Instructors what are you doing at your facility that works well and maybe you would be willing to share that information with others around the state.

In closing, I want to become a better professional and talking with others in this field is a good start. Please when the survey comes to you whether your a member of ARPA or not (sure hoping that you’ll join us) we sure could use your input so take just a few minutes to complete the form and consider joining us in this exciting and challenging area. We need to breathe some life into this quickly shrinking section and get excited about the things to come. Hope to hear from you soon and remember if you have read something interesting maybe you could share it with us in the next FLASH.

Respectfully,

Paige Appelo-Dilley

### Swimming & Water Safety Program Revision

If you have not heard, the Swimming & Water Safety Program and materials are undergoing a thorough revision. The current program, which includes: Learn to Swim, Infant and Preschool Aquatic Program, Community Water Safety, Longfellow’s Whales Tales, Safety Training for Swim Coaches and Basic Water Rescue, was last updated in 1996.

The project team is comprised of volunteers and employees from Red Cross Chapters and national headquarters plus representatives from USA Swimming and the United States Navy. The team’s primary focus is to meet the Red Cross’ goal of drowning prevention by teaching people how to be safe in, on, and around the water.

The program is expected to be released in early 2004 so that facilities will be able to implement the new program for the 2004 summer swim season. Stay tuned for more information this exciting update to one of the American Red Cross’s most important programs.

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

### Program Release: Lifeguard Management

The new Lifeguard Management course is scheduled to be released in early 2003. This course will replace the Head Lifeguard course. The intended participant for Lifeguard Management is the individual responsible for the supervision and management of lifeguards. Contact your local chapter or [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) for more information.

## Aquatics Links

<http://aquaticsf.org/> The Foundation for Aquatic Injury Prevention (FAIP) is a non-profit educational organization dedicated to reducing the number of diving injuries, drownings and near drowning injuries, and other aquatic accidents. FAIP represents victims, their families and others dedicated to the prevention of tragedy in aquatic accidents. FAIP is actively engaged in water safety education, legislation, support for victims and their families, and serves as one of the aquatic communities most comprehensive informational and support resources on aquatic safety issues.

<http://www.cdc.gov/> “Center for Disease Control” Go to the search page and enter “swimming” as your search word. Any documents regarding safety & statistics related to aquatic environments can be found here.

<http://www.thelifeguardstore.com/> On-line catalog of equipment for lifeguards, aquatic areas & training supplies.

<http://www.aquaticsafetygroup.com> Resource for various publications and the “Five-Minute Scanning Strategy” materials.

<http://www.lifesaving.com/> Lifesaving Resources, Inc. Geared toward the education and training of Lifeguard, Aquatic Safety, and Recreation personnel; Public Safety and Rescue personnel; and the general public. Includes a list of courses with descriptions, catalog of equipment for rescue professionals, articles of interest regarding water safety issues and case studies.

<http://www.aquaweb.org/> A great website for aquatic professionals, lifeguarding, aquatics, risk management, Learn to Swim and Lifesaving oriented professionals. includes articles of interest, job board, examples of training materials, a Lifeguard e-mail list and aquatic clip art.

<http://www.turnstep.com/> A great website for fitness class ideas - dryland and aquatic. Go to the lower right hand of the homepage and under “choose patterns by type” choose “aquatic” from the drop down menu to see all the water oriented patterns that have been submitted to the site.



ALASKA RECREATION & PARK ASSOCIATION

Aquatics Section Questionnaire

This year's ARPA conference is being held October 2003 in Anchorage. Please take a few moments to fill out this questionnaire to help us get a better idea of your needs and ideas for conference topic. Please return the survey by March 28. We appreciate your comments and value your input.

TRAINING AREAS

CERTIFICATIONS

Please rank from 1 (highest) to 10 (lowest) of importance:

- \_\_\_ Aquatic Programming
\_\_\_ Lifeguarding Techniques
\_\_\_ Water Safety Instruction
\_\_\_ Emergency Action Plans
\_\_\_ Risk Management
\_\_\_ Sexual Harassment Prevention in the workplace
\_\_\_ Backboarding Techniques
\_\_\_ Recruitment Techniques
\_\_\_ In-House Training
\_\_\_ Facility Maintenance

- \_\_\_ Lifeguard Facility Management
\_\_\_ Lifeguard Instructor Trainer
\_\_\_ Water Safety Instructor Trainer
\_\_\_ CPR/First Aide Instructor
\_\_\_ Adaptive Aquatics
\_\_\_ Certified Pool Spa Operators
\_\_\_ Hazardous Materials Response
\_\_\_ Aqua Aerobics/Aqua kickboxing
\_\_\_ Senior Fitness
\_\_\_ AMSEA Boating Safety

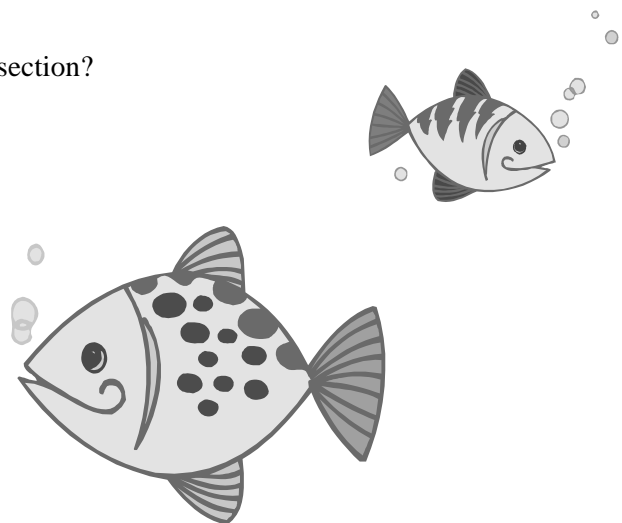
Have you ever been to an ARPA conference or sectional training? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

Are you planning on attending this year's ARPA conference? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

How many staff from your area will be attending this year's ARPA conference? \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any additional certifications and or training that would benefit your facility?

Do you have any comments or suggestions for the Aquatics section?



Return to: Paige Appelo-Dilley, Mat-Su Borough Pool Manager, PO Box 940355, Houston, AK 99694, (907) 745-0207 wk, paige.appelo-dilley@msb.co.mat-su.ak.us

Food for Thought... How Things Work In Real Life. Start with a cage containing five monkeys. Inside the cage, hang a banana on a string and place a set of stairs under it. Before long, a monkey will go to the stairs and start to climb towards the banana. As soon as he touches the stairs, spray all of the other monkeys with cold water. After a while, another monkey makes an attempt with the same result, all the other monkeys are sprayed with cold water. Pretty soon, when another monkey tries to climb the stairs, the other monkeys will try to prevent it. Now, put away the cold water. Remove one monkey from the cage and replace it with a new one. The new monkey sees the banana and wants to climb the stairs. To his surprise and horror, all of the other monkeys attack him. After another attempt and attack, he knows that if he tries to climb the stairs, he will be assaulted. Next, remove another of the original five monkeys and replace it with a new one. The newcomer goes to the stairs and is attacked. The previous newcomer takes part in the punishment with enthusiasm! Likewise, replace a third original monkey with a new one, then a fourth, then the fifth. Every time the newest monkey takes to the stairs, he is attacked. Most of the monkeys that are beating him have no idea why they were not permitted to climb the stairs or why they are participating in the beating of the newest monkey. After replacing all the original monkeys, none of the remaining monkeys have ever been sprayed with cold water. Nevertheless, no monkey ever again approaches the stairs to try for the banana. Why not? Because as far as they know that's the way it's always been done around here. And that, my friends, is how a company policy begins.

NRPA News

From the desk of Bob Hall, Interim Executive Director, NRPA:

The Chairman of the Board of the National Recreation and Park Association, David Lose, is pleased to announce that John A. Thorner, CAE, has been appointed Executive Director for the National Recreation and Park Association effective March 24, 2003.

Mr. Thorner has previously served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Optical Society of America headquartered in Washington, DC. He has previously served as the executive director of the Air and Waste Management Association in Pittsburgh, PA and he has served as Director of Public Affairs and General Counsel of the Water Environment Federation in Alexandria, VA. John has 20 years of association management experience as well as serving as a journalist with the Legal Times, Associated Press, Washington Post, and The Atlanta Constitution.

John received his Juris Doctor of Law from the University of Georgia, School of Law. He also has a Masters Degree in Journalism from Columbia University, New York. His undergraduate degree in history and political science was from Duke University where he served as the Managing Editor of The Duke Chronicle.

He is a member of the American Society of Association Executives, a member of the American Institute of Physics and the American Association of Engineering Societies. He is a Certified Association Executive and licensed to practice law in two states and the District of Columbia.

John presently resides in Potomac, MD. We are looking forward to John joining NRPA. His unique training, skills, and experience in association management will advance the mission and goals of our association in the years ahead.

Citizens, the heart of parks and recreation!

**Distinguished Service Award**

This achievement award is for a deserving individual and/or groups whose voluntary contribution of time and effort over a period of years has improved the quality and quantity of leisure opportunities through park, recreation, and conservation projects on the local, state, regional, or national level. Membership in ARPA is not required, but candidate shall have contributed through:

- A. Voluntary contribution to the parks, recreation, and conservation movement over a period of two or more years.
- B. Active work for significant legislations at local, state and national levels.
- C. Service to the park and recreation and conservation movement through public service or membership in other organizations or other endeavors outside parks, recreation, and conservation field.
- D. Possible literary contributions to parks, recreation and conservation field.
- E. Development of equipment apparatus or design, and layout of facilities.
- F. Generous grants of land, money, equipment, scholarships or other gifts that affect the field.
- G. Any other contribution made in the interest of the parks/recreation profession.

**To nominate a deserving individual or group, return the nomination form before July 15, 2003.**

**Alaska Recreation and Park Association  
AWARD NOMINATION FORM**

Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Award Category:     1. Professional     2. Young Professional     3. Distinguished Service

Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Examples of Leadership & Contributions to Field: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Professional Affiliations: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include any additional information that you would like to present about your candidate.

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

(print)

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that I am personally aware of and have verified all facts about this nominee.

**RETURN THIS FORM TO: Alaska Recreation  
and Park Association  
Awards Committee  
227 Caviar St.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



**Reflections from a Long-Time Professional**

Why Stay Involved

by Bev Driver.

Bob Sammon asked me recently, “Bev, why do you still stay so professionally active now that you have retired?” Upon reflection since then, my answer does not lie in boredom, needs to expand my resume or vitae, or meet personal needs for dominance and recognition (been there; done that!) but is instead found in the following two personal positions.

1. While I was rather ashamed of the leisure profession when I entered it as a young instructor at The University of Michigan in 1967. I took that job for one year, which lasted for six and tenure, so I could have income while I finished my doctoral dissertation at Michigan. As I and leisure science and practice have grown, I am now very proud of our profession, and it HAS BEEN VERY GOOD TO ME. But our profession has a long way to go to reach its potentials, and I believe the benefits/outcomes approach can contribute more toward that goal than anything I can think of. I like to think I still have something to offer in that arena and in the process help our profession be as good, or better, to others as it has been to me.

2. I firmly believe that in at least the industrialized countries, leisure services contribute as much to human welfare as any other social services, including health and educational services. Further, it is clear to me, that considered broadly, the leisure industries constitute the largest economic sector in the US and many foreign countries. Yet, these great contributions of leisure are not well understood or appreciated within our profession, by other agencies, or the public at large. The benefits/outcomes approach offers the best chance to facilitate that needed “repositioning” of perceptions of the roles of leisure in society. I think I can still contribute toward that goal. In sum, I am staying involved to help promote the benefits/outcomes approach, especially to the management of nature-based, or outdoor, recreation—the environments in which I have worked and played for many decades. I doubt if I would be as professionally active if NARRP was not involved in this effort.

**Soil Stabilizers on Universally Accessible Trails.** A report on Soil Stabilizers on Universally Accessible trails can be obtained at <http://fsweb.sdtde.wo.fs.fed.us/pubs/pdf/00231202.pdf>.

**Trail Property Values and Impact.** Two reports on Omaha Recreational Trails: Their Effect on Property Values & Public Safety and Nebraska Rural Trails: Three Studies of Trail Impact by Dr. Greer, University of Nebraska at Omaha can be obtained at [www.unomaha.edu/~greer/don/](http://www.unomaha.edu/~greer/don/).



**4/1-3** Alaska Parks & Recreation Wildlands Spring Workshop. TBA

**4/3-6** Great Alaskan Sports Show, Sullivan Arena, Anchorage, AK. Tradeshow.

**4/12-18** George Wright Society Conference, San Diego, CA.

**5/4-8** National Association of Recreation Resource Planners Annual Conference, “Planning Great Spaces in Great Places”, Milwaukee, WI. Contact Dan Wiley at 402-221-7283.

**5/12-15** River Management Interagency Workshop, Shepherdstown, WV, Contact: [Mark\\_Chase@FWS.gov](mailto:Mark_Chase@FWS.gov) at 218-844-3402.

**5/18-21** National Scenic Byways Conference, Albuquerque, NM, [www.byways.org](http://www.byways.org).

**5/7** National Trails Day, <http://www.americanhiking.org/>.

**8/2-6** Scenic Summit: Action for America’s Communities, Countryside, and Public Lands, Denver, CO, <http://www.scenicsummit.org/>.

**10/15-18** Alaska Recreation & Parks Association Annual Conference, Anchorage, AK. To be held in conjunction with the River Management Society & State Trails Symposium. The conference will have an International Theme. TBA.

## Wildlands Section Spring Forum

Have you wanted to have more opportunities to share the incredible wildland and recreation/tourism research efforts and information that's going on within this great state of Alaska? With other agencies, groups, and individuals? Learn about what's possible, what's happening, what resources are out there, and how to coordinate efforts? The time is now at the annual Alaska Recreation and Park Association Wildlands Section spring Forum!

### Announcing the ~ Wildland Research Rendezvous ~

A Forum on Wildland and Recreation/Tourism Research in Alaska  
**Tuesday, April 1 (1:00 pm) to Thursday, April 3 (noon), 2003**  
**BLM Campbell Creek Science Center, Anchorage, Alaska**

Sponsored by the Alaska Recreation and Park Association, Wildland Section

The Alaska Recreation and Park Association (ARPA), Wildlands Section, is sponsoring an opportunity for managers and research scientists to come together to share the vast array of latest efforts and results of wildland research in Alaska. The desired outcomes include improved knowledge and understanding of current wildlands research applicable to all aspects of wildland management in Alaska, and exploration of opportunities for collaboration between agencies, organizations, and groups. Abstracts, presentations, and information resources will be shared. It's an opportunity to join in a round table discussion to identify information gaps and research needs, and design ways to enhance cooperative efforts toward more compatible and mutually beneficial research and management.

**The forum will begin at 1:00 pm Tuesday, April 1, and conclude at noon on Thursday, April 3.** A small registration fee will include lunch on Wednesday, April 2, beverages, and snacks. Daily rates are available if you can't attend the complete forum. The registration form is attached.

#### Projects of interest include:

- : Research results on wildland values, uses, and impacts
- : Studies on the impacts of recreation use on wildlife and fish
- *Planning and management issues (case examples) unique to Alaska wildlands*
- *Recreation visitor use and tourism studies.*

*Please see at attached agenda for specific presentations and speakers. Please join us by registering now!*

Questions? Please contact:

Marti Marshall, USFS, (907) 586-8872, [mmarshall01@fs.fed.us](mailto:mmarshall01@fs.fed.us)  
Bill Overbaugh, BLM, (907) 271-5508, [bill\\_overbaugh@blm.gov](mailto:bill_overbaugh@blm.gov)

**RMS New Board for 2003** Please welcome the newly elected Alaska Chapter of the River Management Society Board: President Doug Whitaker [dougwhit@alaska.net](mailto:dougwhit@alaska.net); President-Elect Melissa Blair [Melissa\\_Blair@blm.gov](mailto:Melissa_Blair@blm.gov), Secretary Peter Witkoff [Peter\\_Witkoff@fws.gov](mailto:Peter_Witkoff@fws.gov), & Treasurer Bill Overbaugh ([Bill\\_Overbaugh@blm.gov](mailto:Bill_Overbaugh@blm.gov)).

## ARPA AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Dear Fellow ARPA Members:

The Alaska Recreation and Park Association has established an awards program that recognizes individuals and/or groups for their achievements and contributions to the Parks and Recreation field. Awards will be presented at the upcoming 2003 ARPA Conference in October.

Now is the time to begin thinking about all those individuals or organizations around you that help make your organization or agency what it is today. Lets hear about the "up and coming" young professionals, or those professionals long overdue for recognition. How about that special volunteer (or group of volunteers), public or private groups or businesses that contribute countless, precious hours toward furthering and enhancing services related to Parks & Recreation? Please take a moment to review the award criteria and nominate a deserving individual or group for the following award categories:

1. **Professional Award**
2. **Young Professional Award**
3. **Distinguished Service Award**

Nominations for this year's Alaska Recreation and Park Association will be received through **July 15, 2003**. For more information regarding the ARPA Awards Program please contact: Bob Frates, Kenai Parks & Recreation at 283-3855 or email: [bfrates@ci.kenai.ak.us](mailto:bfrates@ci.kenai.ak.us).

### Alaska Recreation And Parks Association Annual Awards Programs (Categories & Qualifications)

#### Professional Award

This is the highest recognition that ARPA can bestow upon a deserving candidate. The person selected will be carefully chosen. Candidates for the Professional Award, must meet the qualifications set forth in the following criteria:

- A. Must be an ARPA member.
- B. Minimum of 10 years experience in the field of parks/recreation.
- C. Demonstrated leadership role (must complete five of the nine categories listed below):
  1. An elected officer in ARPA (name office held and year).
  2. An elected officer in ARPA or affiliated society (name office held and year).
  3. Chairman of a committee in ARPA (name committee and year).
  4. Chairman of a committee in NRPA (name committee and year).
  5. Representative of the Regional Council or NRPA or affiliated society (name Region and year).
  6. Committee work with local, state, or national organization which is affiliated with or promoting same objectives of ARPA (name committee and organization).
  7. Five or more speeches on recreation/parks before groups or conventions, assemblies, luncheons, radio or television presentations, and such other meetings held in interest or promotion of recreation/ parks (state when and where).

8. Books published or articles written on recreation/parks for handbooks, newspapers, magazines, etc., (list books, articles, and publication's name, publication's date).
9. Systematic research which has helped advance the profession (list research and how it appeared).

#### Young Professional Award

These professionals are not necessarily the superintendents or leaders that have been visible in the field, but are the "up and coming" leaders. They should possess all of those qualities and talents that will eventually place them in the top leadership, but at this time in their careers, they are climbing. The candidate shall be thirty-five years of age or less as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the nominating year, and meet the following criteria:

- A. Must be a member of ARPA.
- B. Minimum of 5 years experience as a leader, instructor, supervisor, or administrator, consultant or combination of these services in the field of parks/recreation.
- C. Contributed to the profession through allied field of the arts, crafts, sports, health and safety education, design park maintenance, horticulture, education and consulting services.
- D. High recommendation and respect from the staff within the agency the individual now works.

*See Page 12*

## 2004 A.R.P.A Nomination Of Officers

It's time to give some serious thought about nominating some of your fellow Alaska Recreation and Park Association members and professionals to run for the ARPA Board of Directors. There are currently three seats open, President-Elect, Treasurer and one Board Member at Large position. The ARPA Board of Directors provides recreation and park professionals with educational training, endorses and sponsors political bills on both the state and federal levels, works with the National Recreation and Parks Association on national and regional issues, and gives local departments and agencies a chance to network for the betterment of our profession.

There are many people out there who could make a contribution by running for one of the Board positions. **There's no better way to become involved with other professionals!**

The Nominations Committee is seeking candidates for the following positions:

### President-Elect

The duties include:

1. Preside at all Association business meetings in the absence of the President.
2. Perform Association business at the direction of the President.
3. Attend all Board of Directors meetings and other Association meetings.
4. Serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors: **One year as President.**

### Board Member at Large

The duties of the Board Member at Large include:

1. Attend all Association Board meetings and other Association meetings.
2. Serve on various committees identified in the By-Laws including any special committees.
3. Serves a two-year term.

**Please return to: Jeff Hawley/Cordova Parks & Rec.Dept., P.O. Box 1210, Cordova, Alaska 99574 or Fax (907) 424-3277.**

### Treasurer

**The Treasurer shall be responsible for receiving and holding all funds of the Association and shall disburse funds by check only as authorized by the president or president-elect. The Treasurer shall give a full report of the Association financial status at all regular board meetings. Other duties include:**

1. Reports to ARPA Board of Directors and Membership: The Treasurer shall prepare a report on a periodic basis to coincide with ARPA Board Meetings. This report shall be distributed to the board either by mail, email, or at the meeting site. Information should be as current as possible, with beginning balances corresponding to the final balances on previous reports.
2. At the Annual/Membership meeting, the Treasurer will make available to the membership the latest report and be prepared to answer any questions regarding the report and current status of the Association funds.
3. Obtain all proper signature cards for the Non-Profit Group or Organization as outlined in the Associations Articles of Incorporation.
4. Keep Articles of Incorporation of Association current by reporting to state when required to do so.
5. File appropriate TAX forms to the IRS for Non-Profit Organizations

**PLEASE FILL OUT THE FORM AND SUBMIT TO THE NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE BY: MARCH 31, 2003** Remember .....you may nominate yourself!!!

President-Elect: ( 3 year term ) ( one seat )

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer: ( 2 year term ) ( one seat )

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Member at Large: ( 2 year term ) ( two seats open )

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**ARPA WANTS and NEEDS YOU! THE BENEFITS ARE ENDLESS**

## The ~ Wildland Research Rendezvous ~ A Forum on Wildland and Recreation/Tourism Research in Alaska Tuesday, April 1 (1:00 pm) to Thursday, April 3 (noon), 2003

BLM Campbell Creek Science Center, Anchorage, Alaska

### Preliminary Agenda

#### Tuesday, April 1:

1300-1330 Welcome, introductions, and objectives.

1330-1500 What's Going On? Overview and Opportunities:

The Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

– Alan Watson

NPS Research Overview and Opportunities

– Judy Alderson

NFS Research – Overview and Opportunities

- Linda Kruger

BLM Research Overview and Opportunities

– Bill Overbaugh

USFWS Research Overview and Opportunities

– Brian Glaspell

Institute of Social and Economic Research

– Steve Colt

University of Alaska, Fairbanks

– Peter Fix

State of Alaska Overview and Opportunities -TBA

Alaska Wilderness Recreation and Tourism Association - TBA

ATIA, Other organizations - TBA

#### *1500-1515 Break*

1515-1645 Presenters share studies, projects, and case examples of research projects, challenges, and approaches.

- Evaluating Experience Quality and management Actions on Alaska Rivers: Useful Survey Items and Analysis Strategies - Doug Whittaker, Ph.D., Confluence Research and Consulting

- Geospatial Coding and Mapping of Expenditure Data from the Alaska Visitor Statistics Program Steve Colt, Institute of Social and Economic Research

- Social Science on the Tongass National Forest Linda Kruger, Pacific Northwest Research Stations, Seattle

1645-1700 Announcements, Conclusion for the Day

#### Wednesday, April 2:

0800-1600 Continuation of Presentations (lunch served at Campbell Creek Science Center, 12:00 to 1:30 pm)

- Visitors' Relationship with Wilderness in Alaska: A Focus on Commitment to Protecting Wilderness Character - Neal Christensen, Alan Watson, Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute

- Conflicts on Wild Rivers: Can Research Really Help? - Joan Kluwe, Anchorage

- Recreation Use and Visitor Experience on the Karluk River, Alaska - Amy Lewis, APU

- Just Like Playing Poker and Drinking Beer: Building Trust with Commercial Service Operators. Don Pendergrast, Gates of the Arctic Nat'l Park- Alan Watson & Neal Christensen, Aldo Leopold Institute

- Evaluating Mtn Goat Response to Helicopter Overflights in AK- Aaron Poe, Chugach Nat'l Forest

- Soundscape Research in Protected Management Units: Using Automated Instrumentation for Sound Level and Audibility Data Collection at Denali Nat'l Park -Shan Burson, Denali Nat'l Park & Preserve

- Applying Recreation Impact Methodology to Coastal Alaska Wildlands - Paul Twardock, APU

- An Assessment of Extraordinary Experience and Emotional Response of Visitors to the Dalton Highway in Alaska - Mary Farber, Lisa Shon Jodwalis, BLM

- Human and Brown Bear Use of Eva Creek Watershed: A Cooperative Study - Cheryl Van Dyke, APU

- Monitoring Visitor Use in the White Mountain National Recreation Area - Collin Cogley, BLM, Fairbanks

1600-1630 Summary – Comments – Setting up Tomorrow

**Wednesday, April 3**

0800-1200 Round Table discussion – Working towards a future vision for wildland research in Alaska - identify data needs, priorities for investment in the next 5-10 years, and opportunities for collaboration. Facilitator: Alan Watson

NOTE: The BLM Campbell Creek Science Center is located at 6881 Abbott Loop Road, Anchorage, AK (near the intersection of 68<sup>th</sup> Street and Abbott Loop Road, and within the BLM Campbell Track). Once to the entrance sign of Campbell Track Facility on Abbott Loop Road, go approximately ¼ mile and then fork left, following the signs to the Science Center.

Questions? Please contact:

Marti Marshall, USFS, (907) 586-8872,  
[mmarshall01@fs.fed.us](mailto:mmarshall01@fs.fed.us)  
Bill Overbaugh, BLM, (907) 271-5508,  
[bill\\_overbaugh@blm.gov](mailto:bill_overbaugh@blm.gov)

~ Wildland Research Rendezvous ~

**A Forum on Wildland and Recreation/Tourism Research in Alaska**

April 1 at 1:00 pm to April 3, noon, 2003

**Campbell Creek Science Center, Anchorage, Alaska**

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** REGISTRATION IS KINDLY REQUESTED BY MARCH 26, 2003, for planning purposes (although registration at the door may be possible).

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AFFILIATION/AGENCY** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you a member of Alaska Recreation and Park Association?** Yes\_\_ No\_\_

**If so, are you a member of the Wildlands Section?** Yes\_\_ No\_\_

**Please identify any special needs you may have:** \_\_\_\_\_

Cost of the Forum is **\$55**, payable upon registration. The fee includes a Forum notebook, snacks, beverages, and lunch on Wednesday, April 2, 2003. (Daily rates are \$15 per day on Tuesday or Thursday, and \$25 for Wednesday (which includes lunch).

**To register, please fax or e-mail this form to Marti Marshall, [mmarshall01@fs.fed.us](mailto:mmarshall01@fs.fed.us) (fax 907-586-7866).**

**PAYMENT:**

**Visa**\_\_ or **MC**\_\_ **Card #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exp. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OR payment by check may be made to:**  
**ARPA, Wildlands Section, c/o Marti Marshall**  
**USDA Forest Service P.O. Box 21628**  
**Juneau, AK 99802-1628**

**Questions? Call Marti Marshall at (907) 586-8872**

**CPRP – Controversy in the Politics**

The Certified Parks and Recreation Professional: Exactly what is this certification and what does it mean? The truth of the matter is that the certification is highly political and extremely controversial at the National Recreation and Park Association level. NRPA has created the CPRP with the stated purpose “to ensure that personnel employed in recreation, park resources, and leisure services meet high standards of performance.” History of the certification dates back to 1950 when the states of California, North Carolina, and New York established state credentialing and certification plans. NRPA instituted the certification plan in 1981. Since then, thousands of individuals around the nation have obtained their certification. Originally called the Certified Leisure Professional (CLP), NRPA has since changed the name to Certified Parks and Recreation Professional (CPRP) because it was thought that the word “leisure” conjured up a false impression of what we do.

To obtain a CPRP, one must qualify and sit for an exam at either their state association, the national congress, or take it through an H&R Block office. The individual must either possess a Parks and Recreation degree from an accredited university or have worked five years in the profession to qualify for exam. To stay current, individuals must obtain 2.0 continuing education units every two years. Today there are guides to help study for the exam.

There are some Parks and Recreation jobs across the nation that list a CPRP as a minimum requirement. Other jobs do not require certification but offer a higher wage grade if you possess one. Some positions list a CPRP as “preferred.” Most jobs in the state of Alaska will not place much emphasis on the certification.

Alaska is one of five states **not** approved with a State Certification Board. There is good reason for this. To become a qualified state requires that all certification board members for our association have their CPRP. Presently, there are only two individuals in our entire state with this certification. Alaska is one of the smaller states in terms of population and we would not be able to have enough qualifying individuals to fill certification board positions if we were to impose this restriction upon us. There are many states with over 300 people with a CPRP.

The Pacific Northwest Region has expressed continued opposition and frustration to the certification. This region comprises the states of Alaska, Washington, Oregon,

Montana, and Idaho, as well as the provinces of Alberta and British Columbia. There are only four universities in our region that offer the Parks and Recreation curriculum. Many of these states cannot even find enough qualified people eligible to sit for the exam.

This has recently come to a head at the American Parks and Recreation Society board meetings. To serve our region requires one to sit for a three-year term with two others on a rotating basis. I am presently serving my second year, along with another woman from Oregon in her third year, and our newest representative from Washington in his first year. When Dee Craig’s term from Oregon expires, we will need to find someone to replace her from Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alberta or British Columbia since no two representatives can come from the same state/province. It will be difficult to find someone with a CPRP from these states and provinces, especially since only the University of Idaho, Moscow offers the Parks and Recreation curriculum. In the past, representation from the Pacific NW region has typically come from Oregon and Washington, with the third position filled by one of the other states or districts. Ideally, it would be better if all the states/provinces in our region were able to provide qualified candidates on an equal basis. It is a very real possibility that the Pacific NW Region will not be able to fill their three board seats for APRS some day. Although we have made this clear to APRS, there is significant opposition to our request to remove the CPRP requirement.

The CPRP discussion at the national level has generated much heated debate. There are some people who feel very strongly about the value of the certification. Although the PNW region rep’s agree with the value of the CPRP, we maintain that the problem for us becomes the lack of people in our region who possess the certification, lack of individuals who can qualify to sit for the exam, and the lack of universities that offer the curriculum.

The CPRP is indeed a political and controversial topic among NRPA members. It is likely here to stay, but it is conceivable that provisions may be made some day. Should you require further information about the CPRP or would like to weigh in on this topic, please do not hesitate to contact me by e-mail or telephone. [wendiem@ci.unalaska.ak.us](mailto:wendiem@ci.unalaska.ak.us) or (907) 581-1297.

Wendie Marriott, Director  
Parks, Culture and Recreation Department  
City of Unalaska

# Registration

## National Playground Safety Training Institute

Hilton Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska

April 28 & 29 (8 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Optional Examination - Wednesday, April 30, 2003 (8 a.m. – 11 a.m.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

I require special assistance.

Please list my name and address in the National CPSI Registry upon passing the exam.

**Tuition Includes :** *One & a half day course with playground audit, coffee breaks & lunch first two days.*

Textbooks will be mailed in February to those registering prior to March 1

\_\_\_\_\_ \$340      \_\_\_\_\_ \$360 (after **April 1, 2003**)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

National Playground Safety Exam (Optional)      \$100      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Tuition & Exam Fees**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable to ARPA  
Submit to NRPA Training Institute, c/o PO Box 102664,  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-2664

**Hotel:**      **Rooms available at the Hilton Hotel**  
**Conference Rate: \$82/night single or \$92/night double.**  
**Telephone (907) 272-7411 or 800-445-8667**

**Sponsored by**  
**Alaska Recreation & Parks Association, Municipality of Anchorage**  
**National Recreation & Parks Association**

For more information contact Lori Schanche at (907) 343-8368  
schanchele@ci.anchorage.ak.us



### Web Site

ARPA's web site is [www.alaskarpa.org](http://www.alaskarpa.org). Use this site for the latest information on the annual conference, upcoming workshops, section news (for some of the sections), FLASH archives,

and a forum for online discussions. Please visit the site and use the forum - the more use it receives, the better the site will become. If you have information you would like to see on the site or have anything you would like posted, please contact Zieak at [zieak@alaskarpa.org](mailto:zieak@alaskarpa.org). Which reminds me, all ARPA members can have their own alaskarpa.org email address that can be either forwarded to another email account, checked with your other mail (if you use Outlook), or even accessed on the web. Contact Zieak to have this set up.

#### Alaska Natural History Symposium May 2 + 3: Palmer Alaska

The 3rd Alaska Natural History Symposium will be held May 2+3 at the Spring Creek Farm near Palmer, Alaska. The Symposium aims to bring educate outdoor professionals, educators, and the interested public on Alaska's Natural History and its relationship with outdoor recreation through presentations, discussions, and activities. Call 564-8254 for more information.

### Youth Services Section News

The big news in the *Youth Services Section* is that we changed our section name to *Recreation Services*. The concept is that we don't really need to draw lines between age groups. Many of us provide youth and adult programs that have some of the same issues. As a result we are widening the scope of the section. Our hope is that this will recruit new section members that previously had difficulty finding a section that met their needs. The Recreation Services Section plans on creating a database of games and activities for section members to use and add to. Eventually we hope to have a CD Rom packed with ideas for programs that may even be accessible to section members online. Watch the Recreation Services page on [www.alaskarpa.org](http://www.alaskarpa.org) for information. ~Zieak

## FLASH!

To submit an article to the Flash, send a Microsoft word document with the text to Dave Lewis :

**dave\_lewis@ci.juneau.ak.us**

If you do not have access to Microsoft Word, please contact Annie McIlvain, Director of Member Services at the Alaska Municipal League for assistance. (907) 586-1325 or [annie@akml.org](mailto:annie@akml.org)

Photographs or clip art is best when sent using a JPEG or BMP or TIFF format.  
Thanks!

Do you have a suggestion for the Flash?  
E-mail Dave!  
[dave\\_lewis@ci.juneau.ak.us](mailto:dave_lewis@ci.juneau.ak.us)

What are your ideas?  
What is most useful?  
What didn't you like or read?

Submit your ideas AND articles to Dave by June 11, 2003 for the next Flash.

### Free List Serve Trial for RMS

RMS is offering a free trial for anyone who'd like to try its world famous list serve. The list serve is a forum for announcements, technical information, and discussion of river management issues on any subject of the authors choosing. Give it a try, ask a question on permits, fees, campsite monitoring, or any subject and receive expert advice from members or offer advice on a subject you have experience with. To sign up for the free trial, send e-mail to Caroline Tan [rms@river-management.org](mailto:rms@river-management.org) <<mailto:rms@river-management.org>> with a subject header that reads 'Alaska Free List Serve Trial' and you'll be signed up to receive and post messages or to just view the dialogue.

## ALAGANIK ANGLER'S TRAIL

Cordova Ranger District  
FY 2002

Prepared by David A Zastrow  
Forestry Technician  
Cordova Ranger District



*This is a section of the Alaganik Fisherman's Trail before trail construction showing severe damage to the muskeg.*

### INTRODUCTION:

The Cordova Ranger District Fisheries department and Recreation/Trails department combined personnel and resources this past field season of 2002 to construct 2400 feet of trail on the Copper River Delta. This is the fifth consecutive field season that these two shops have come together to address resource damage, improve the district trails and provide fishing access to the public. The last project was the reconstruction of the Pipeline Lakes Trail, which provides fishing access to the trails five lakes. This new trail project begins at the end of the Alaganik Slough Road off the Copper River Highway. It receives heavy use from sport fisherman for a period of two months during the Silver Salmon runs in August and September. The resource damage along this mostly muskeg route was becoming severe with areas of knee-deep mud and trail braiding. This new construction will not only minimize the resource damage caused by the heavy sport fishing use, it will also provide visitors with an opportunity to more easily access and explore this beautiful part of the Copper River Delta.

Pressure treated 2" x 12" x 10' planks are used to span boggy sections of trail, cross muskeg meadows and step/run up slopes and over root wads. The boards are surfaced with recycled Sein fishing net to improve traction. The net is attached to the boards using a compressor, pneumatic staple gun and 1 1/2" galvanized staples. This is done at the USFS workshop prior to transportation. Once on site, the boards are placed on two foot (center sills) or three foot (end sills) and nailed down with 16d-galvanized nails. The boards are laid end-to-end or alternating from side to side depending on the terrain and trail width

The Alaganik Fisherman's Trail turned out to be a great location to try a relatively new trail planking material, Geoblock® plastic panels, and compare it with our traditional use of pressure treated boards. Geoblock is currently used in areas of Alaska for soil stabilization on ATV trails. The panels are twenty inches wide, forty inches long and two inches deep with interlocking tabs on all sides. They consist of seventy-two open cells measuring three inch by three inch. In their original application, they are installed by laying the panels "cell

up", screwing the interlocking tabs together, placing the panels in sheets below grade and filling with gravel or soil to create a hardened road bed, pad or trail tread.

The Geoblock® plastic panels can be used in a similar way as pressure treated boards. Clearing the path of all brush and grass down to the muskeg ground cover, panels were positioned cell down, screwed together end to end using the interlocking tabs, placed directly onto the muskeg and anchored down. For an anchoring system Duckbill® earth anchors were attached to galvanized wire and tightened using Gripple® wire fasteners. A three-inch expansion gap was created every 7 panels. Black plastic panels absorb the sun's warmth and can expand as much as a quarter inch per panel. A three foot long 2" x 12" pressure treated sill is placed under each expansion gap and the two panel ends anchored

### **GEOBLOCK ADVANTAGE**

Light. (10 lb per panel)  
Recycled plastic. (50% recycled Polyethylene)  
Light penetrating. (40% open area per panel)  
Does not leach out any chemicals into surrounding soils and water.  
Will not rot.  
Tread width of 20 inches.

### **DISADVANTAGE**

Expensive compared to pressure treated wood.  
Requires the use of specialized tools.  
Installation time is longer. (1/3 longer than wood installation)  
Unproven as planking material.

We are very excited to see how this new tread material performs over the winter and the years to come. Hopefully, Geoblock will prove to be a viable tread option for hiking trails as well as OHV trails.

## Citizen-Board Member Branch of NRPA Installs Alaskan as President

**Bob Robertson**, retired professional from Anchorage was recently installed as president of the Citizen- Board Member Branch of the National Recreation and Park Association. The installation was held during the C-BM Board meeting at the Annual NRPA Congress in Tampa, Florida.

Robertson retired from the Anchorage Park and Recreation Department in 1989. He has been active in the Alaska Recreation and Park Association since its beginning in 1975. He was the first president of the Association and has served on the board many years.

He became active in the Citizen Board Member Branch in 1994 and has been on that board since that time. The C-BM Branch of NRPA has 8,400 members and is open to all citizen volunteers and board members that have interest in the Park and Recreation field. The national organization encourages the conducting of workshops at state and regional conferences to better educate board members on how to Discover the Benefits of Park and Recreation.

Alaska Recreation and Park Association Board of Directors have shown interest in forming a section for Citizen Board Members. Robertson's term of office will be until October of 2003.

### **HELP!**

The ARPA Board and the **Juneau 2004** Conference Host Committee need your assistance in determining when to hold the Fall 2004 Conference in Juneau. The NRPA Congress will be held in Reno, Nevada from October 12- 16, 2004.

Please prioritize your top three choices for the ARPA Fall Conference:

- \_\_\_\_\_ September 29 - October 2
- \_\_\_\_\_ October 6 - 9
- \_\_\_\_\_ October 8 - 11
- \_\_\_\_\_ October 18 - 21
- \_\_\_\_\_ October 20 - 23
- \_\_\_\_\_ October 27 - 30

Please send your votes by email to [Kim.Kiefer@ci.juneau.ak.us](mailto:Kim.Kiefer@ci.juneau.ak.us) or mail them to Juneau Parks and Recreation, Attention: 2004 Conference Committee, 155 South Seward, Juneau, Alaska 99801 **by April 11, 2003.**



I wish to thank the awards committee for the Bob Robertson Service Award that was presented at the state conference in Homer. Although I was not able to receive it in person, I was extremely thrilled and appreciative of the plaque. It is especially humbling to receive the award in Bob Robertson's namesake, known by many as the "Father of ARPA." I could not have received this without the mentoring by each and every one of you in the profession. I have **you** to thank for an honor that means so much to me.

Thank you,

Wendie Marriott, Director  
Parks, Culture and Recreation Department  
City of Unalaska

## Steve Beardsley Installed To C-BM Board

Alaska filled a vacant position on the Board of Directors of the Citizen-Board Branch of the National Recreation and Park Association when **Steve Beardsley of Anchorage** was installed at the National Congress in Tampa, Florida. Beardsley is a retired educator and served in that profession for 32 years before retiring last year. His wife Nancy works as a Volunteer Coordinator for the Anchorage Cultural and Recreation Department, Park and Recreation Division.

Beardsley serves as a commissioner on the Anchorage Park and Recreation Commission and is a member of the Alaska Recreation and Park Association and the National Recreation and Park Association. His term on C-BM Board will be two years. He will serve on The Education /Training/Congress Program Committee and the Membership/State and Association Liaison Committee for the C-BM Branch this year.

Steve will also be active in recruiting and setting up a new section for Board members for the Alaska Recreation and Park Association. Congratulations Steve.